IN THE MATTER OF
THE APPLICATION OF
MELVIN DUCKETT, ET UX
FOR VARIANCE ON PROPERTY LOCATED
ON THE NORTH SIDE BACON HALL ROAD,
1400' E OF THE C/L OF GILLETT ROAD
(900 BACON HALL ROAD)
7TH ELECTION DISTRICT
3RD COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT

* BEFORE THE

* COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS

* OF

BALTIMORE COUNTY

* CASE NO: 95-351-A

O P I N I O N

This case comes before the County Board of Appeals based on an appeal from the Deputy Zoning Commissioner's Order of June 12, 1995, in which the Petition for Variance was granted with restrictions.

Mr. John Bernstein, Executive Director of the Valleys Planning
Council appeared on behalf of the Appellants; pursuant to Rule No.

8 of the Board's Rules, a certified copy of the Authorizing
Resolution was presented to the Board prior to the hearing.

Carole S Demilio Deputy People's Counsel conducted the

Carole S. Demilio, Deputy People's Counsel, conducted the Appellant's case at the hearing, and presented the opening and closing legal arguments. People's Counsel is authorized to appear and participate in zoning matters before this Board despite not appearing below (Baltimore County Charter Section 524.1). Dr. Melvin Duckett, Petitioner, appeared pro se and without expert witnesses.

Dr. Duckett testified concerning the variance request. The Petitioner was seeking relief from Section 1A01.3.A. of the BCZR to permit a dwelling height of 65 ft. in lieu of the required 35 ft. permit by law. The Petitioner indicated that when calculating the height of the proposed dwelling, the measurement was taken from one

Case No. 95-351-A, Melvin Duckett, et ux

of the cupolas which had been incorporated into the design of this The Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (BCZR), residence. specifically Section 300.1A exempts cupolas when calculating height; therefore, the petitioner should have measured the proposed dwelling from the peak of the roof and not necessarily from the top of the cupola. Upon recalculating the height of the house from the peak of the roof the house will stand 47 ft. above grade and that a variance of 47 ft. in lieu of the requested 65 ft. was actually needed. The subject property and relief sought are more fully described in Petitioner's Exhibit No. 2, consisting of ten pages, which outlines a description of the proposed dwelling and site. Dr. Duckett testified that he has owned the subject property for 2 He indicated a desire to create a home consisting of 1/2 years. approximately 20,000 sq. ft. as a single family dwelling. The property itself consists of 237 acres, more or less, and is presently zoned R.C. 2. It is located in the Sparks area of Baltimore County on the west side of I-83 and is dissected by Bacon Hall Road and Cedar Grove Road. The property is currently improved with several tenant buildings and outbuildings which were formerly The Petitioner indicated that he a part of a farm operation. wished to engage the entire area as an estate property. He testified that his proposed plans would enhance the area as an estate property with the proposed house as the main residence along with associated tenant houses. Dr. Duckett stated that in his opinion there were already other structures in the area served by

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Case No. 95-351-A, Melvin Duckett, et ux

Valleys Planning Council ("VPC") area that exceeded the height restrictions and in addition to the aesthetic values which would be enhanced by the requested variance, his financing for the project could not be approved by the lending institution if the variance was not granted. Dr. Duckett's testimony constituted his entire case in chief.

Mr. John Bernstein, Executive Director of the VPC, testified before the Board. He stated that the VPC was opposed to the granting of the variance for several reasons. His salient points in opposition were that the granting of the variance by the Deputy Zoning Commissioner failed to meet the standards imposed by Cromwell v. Ward, 102 MD, App. 691 (1995) as to the uniqueness or unusual nature of the subject property that renders it in any manner different than that of surrounding properties and further that the farm was situated in a national registered historic district and that the proposed dwelling would constitute an unwarranted visual intrusion into that district. Deputy People's Counsel also submitted exhibits 1, 2, 3 and 4 outlining Baltimore County maps of the area in question, along with aerial photos and zoning maps for Baltimore County in the location of the Bacon Hall farm.

Public deliberation by the Board took place on March 7, 1996. Section 307.1 sets forth the requirements for the granting of a variance. Such variance can only be granted in situations where special circumstances or conditions exist peculiar to the land or

Case No. 95-351-A, Melvin Duckett, et ux

structure which is the subject of the variance request and where strict compliance with the zoning regulations would result in practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship. Additionally if the variance is granted it must be in strict harmony with the spirit and intent of the height and area regulations; and, only without injury to the health, safety and general welfare, otherwise there is no power to grant a variance.

The property in question consists of 237 +/- acres. The entire Valley area contains parcels of greater and some lesser land area with some lot consisting of over 300 acres. Testimony indicated that such acreage was quite typical of the entire Valley so that there was nothing either unique or unusual as to the land mass. The average structure height of other dwellings appeared to be 20-25 ft. There did not appear to be any other dwellings offered in evidence that exceeded height restrictions. Those restrictions presently imposed on the Petitioner's property did not apply solely to Dr. Duckett's property, but all properties in the area.

Having heard testimony, examining all exhibits and reviewing the statutory and case law, the Board concluded that the Petitioner had not demonstrated that the property suffered from any unusual constraints or was singularly disadvantaged compared to other properties in the area and further that if any hardship was imposed it was not imposed by the subject site but by the building plans themselves. For these reasons, the variance

Case No. 95-351-A, Melvin Duckett, et ux request must be denied.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE, this __30th __day of __April_____, 1996 by the County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County,

ORDERED that the Petition for Variance to permit a dwelling height of 47 feet in lieu of the maximum permitted 35 feet be and is hereby DENIED.

Any petition for judicial review from this decision must be made in accordance with Rule 7-201 through Rule 7-210 of the Maryland Rules of Procedure.

COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

Robert O. Schuetz, Chairman

Charalas Y Wassles

Harry E. Buchheister, Jr.



County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

OLD COURTHOUSE, ROOM 49 400 WASHINGTON AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 (410) 887-3180

April 30, 1996

Mr. John Bernstein Executive Director The Valleys Planning Council, Inc. P.O. Box 5402 Towson, MD 21204-5402

> RE: Case No. 95-351-A Melvin Duckett, et ux

Dear Mr. Bernstein:

Enclosed please find a copy of the final Opinion and Order issued this date by the County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County in the subject matter.

Any petition for judicial review from this decision must be made in accordance with Rule 7-201 through Rule 7-210 of the Maryland Rules and Procedure. If no such petition is filed within 30 days from the date of the enclosed Order, the subject file will be closed.

Very truly yours,

Charlotte E. Radcliffe

Legal Secretary

Enclosure

CC: Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Duckett
Mr. Tim Sanders
Sanders Designs
Mr. Tim Mullin
People's Counsel for Baltimore County
Pat Keller
Timothy M. Kotroco
W. Carl Richards, Jr. /PDM
Docket Clerk /PDM
Arnold Jablon, Director /PDM
Virginia W. Barnhart, County Attorney

IN RE:

(4)

PETITION FOR VARIANCE

N/S Bacon Hall Road, 1400' E

of the c/l of Gillett Road

(900 Bacon Hall Road) 7th Election District

3rd Councilmanic District

Melvin Duckett, et ux

Petitioners

BEFORE THE

DEPUTY ZONING COMMISSIONER

OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

Case No. 95-351-A

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

This matter comes before the Deputy Zoning Commissioner as a Petition for Variance for that property known as 900 Bacon Hall Road, located in the vicinity of Sparks, adjacent to Interstate 83. tion was filed by the owners of the property, Dr. Melvin Duckett, and his wife, Kathy Duckett. The Petition, as filed, seeks relief from Section 1A01.3.A of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit a dwelling height of 65 feet in lieu of the maximum permitted 35 feet. The subject property and relief sought are more particularly described on the site plan submitted and marked into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibit 1.

Appearing at the hearing on behalf of the Petition were Dr. Melvin Duckett, property owner, and Timothy Sanders, Architect. Appearing in opposition to the relief requested were Tim Mullan, a nearby resident of the area, and Kristen Forsyth, who appeared on behalf of the Valleys Planning Council.

At the onset of the hearing, it was determined that the Petitioners had requested a greater variance than was necessary. Discussions with the Petitioner revealed that when calculating the height of the proposed dwelling, the measurement was taken from one of the cupolas which have been incorporated into the design of this residence. The B.C.Z.R., specifically Section 300.1A, exempts cupolas when calculating for height. Therefore,

the Petitioner should have measured the proposed dwelling from the peak of the roof and not necessarily from the top of the cupola. Upon recalculating the height of the house from the peak of the roof, it was determined that the house will stand 47 feet above-grade and that a variance of 47 feet in lieu of the requested 65 feet was needed. On behalf of the Petitioner, Mr. Sanders testified that the Petitioner chose the highest point of the dwelling from which to measure so that there would be no misunderstanding at the hearing as to the extent of the size of the proposed dwelling. Dr. Duckett did not want anyone to be misled by taking the height measurement of the proposed dwelling from anywhere other than its highest point. The Petition was amended accordingly and the hearing proceeded on the merits of the amended request.

Testimony and evidence offered revealed that the subject property consists of 237.083 acres, more or less, zoned R.C. 2. The property is located in Sparks on the west side of Interstate 83 and is dissected by Bacon Hall Road and Cedar Grove Road. The property is presently improved with several tenant dwellings and outbuildings which were previously part of a farm operation. Dr. Duckett testified that he has owned the property for the past 2 and 1/2 years. The Petitioners wish to create an estate for their family and propose to construct a 20,000 sq.ft. single family residence on the property at this time. Dr. Duckett proposes to locate this rather large dwelling within the tree line that exists on the property, as shown on Petitioner's Exhibit 1, to provide some buffering to the visual effect of the house itself. Dr. Duckett testified that he intends to utilize the entire parcel, including the proposed residence, as an estate property. Dr. Duckett testified that it was his understanding that this parcel of land was once considered for development as a golf course.

ORDER RECEIVED FOR FILING

He believes that the property would be best preserved as an estate with a main residence and associated tenant houses.

Appearing as a Protestant in this matter was Kristen Forsyth who voiced opposition on behalf of the Valleys Planning Council (VPC). Forsyth presented a letter from the VPC dated April 26, 1995 in which they voiced strong opposition to the height variance requested for the proposed The VPC does not believe that the Petitioner meets the requiredwelling. ments imposed upon them for the granting of this variance. They further state in their letter that the proposed dwelling would form an "unwelcome visual intrusion" on this property, which is located within the National Register Historic District.

On cross-examination, Ms. Forsyth was asked by Dr. Duckett whether the VPC had reviewed the elevation drawings for the proposed dwelling prior to taking the position indicated in their letter. Ms. Forsyth testified that the VPC had not had an opportunity to review the elevation but, as a matter of principle, were opposed to any single family dwelling being built at the height proposed.

It was surprising to see the opposition by the Valleys Planning Council to the proposed use of this land by Dr. Duckett as his personal residence and as an estate for his family. It would appear to be a wonderful opportunity for this 237 acre parcel to be used for residential purpos-Only one main single family dwelling is proposed, with existing tenant houses. This main dwelling will be tucked into the tree line that exists on the property, which should provide a substantial buffer Furthermore, Dr. Duckett has taken great care and gone to structure. great lengths to design a rather magnificent structure to be built upon Once constructed, this mansion would certainly be a showthis property.

piece in this area of Baltimore County, while at the same time, occupying and utilizing the entire parcel of land for residential purposes.

Given the fact that the subject property was once considered for use as a golf course, it would seem logical that the utilization of this property as an estate would be preferable to all those concerned with the preservation of this area of Baltimore County. I also question why the Valleys Planning Council would take a strong position of opposition to this residence without first reviewing the elevation drawings for the proposed structure.

Also attending the hearing and offering testimony in opposition to the Petitioners' request was Tim Mullan, who resides in this area of Baltimore County, but not adjacent to the subject property. Mr. Mullan is also concerned over the size of the proposed residence, but did note, however, that the house in which he presently resides probably exceeds the 35-foot height restriction. In fact, all those in attendance at the hearing before this Deputy Zoning Commissioner acknowledged that many of the houses in this area of Baltimore County, and particularly, the larger custom built homes, exceed the height restrictions imposed by the B.C.Z.R.

The B.C.Z.R., specifically Section 307.1, established a two-step process for the granting of variances. That two-step process was addressed and identified by the Court of Special Appeals in the case of <u>Cromwell v. Ward</u>, 102 Md. App. 691 (1995). The opinion in that case, issued January 4, 1995 and authored by the Honorable J. Cathell, interpreted our regulations to require the applicant to establish the following:

First, the Applicant (Petitioner) must prove, and this Deputy Zoning Commissioner must find, that the "property whereon structures are to be placed (or uses conducted) is -- in and of itself-- unique and unusu-



ORDER RECEIVED FOR FILING
Date
(18.95)
By

al in a manner different from the nature of surrounding properties such that the uniqueness and peculiarity of the subject property causes the zoning provision to impact disproportionately upon that property."

I find from the testimony and evidence presented in this case that the subject property is unique, unusual and different from properties which surround the subject site so as to cause this applicable zoning provision to impact disproportionately upon this particular parcel of land.

Having satisfied this "first step" the Applicant (Petitioner) must proceed to the "second step" of this variance process, which is to show that strict compliance with the zoning regulations for Baltimore County would result in practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship.

The practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship guidelines that have been imposed by the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) have been thoroughly examined and discussed by the appellate courts of this State. In Loyola Federal Savings and Loan Association v. Buschman, 227 Md. 243, 176 A.2d 355 (1961), the Court of Appeals considered the identical regulation to Section 307.1 of the B.C.Z.R.

As the Court noted: "Section 307 of the Regulations uses the two terms (practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship) in the disjunctive."

Loyola Federal, p. 358. Thus, by the use of the term "or", Section 307 offers the Petitioner an opportunity to obtain its variance upon satisfaction of either the undue hardship or practical difficulty standard.

The distinction between these standards was clarified by the Court of Special Appeals in Anderson v. Board of Appeals, Town of Chesapeake Beach, 22 Md. App. 28, 322 A.2d 220 (1974). Within that opinion, the Court held that the undue hardship standard applies to a petition for a use variance. The Court noted that a use variance, which permits a use

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on the property other than that specifically permitted in that particular district, requires the imposition of a higher standard. That is, to allow the change of use for a particular property requires the Petitioner to demonstrate real hardship, where the land cannot allow a reasonable return if used only in accordance with the use restrictions of the ordinance.

Compared with this heavy burden, the Court reviewed the practical difficulty standard applicable for area variances. The Court characterized area variances as having a much less drastic effect than use variances, in that they seek relief only from height, area, setback, or side property line restrictions and would not affect the property's use, per se. The Court envisioned the impact of area variances on the surrounding locale to be less than that generated by use variances, and thus, the lesser practical difficulty standard applies. The prongs of that standard which must be satisfied by the Petition, as enunciated in Anderson, supra, are as follows:

- 1) whether compliance with the strict letter of restrictions governing area, setbacks, frontage, height, bulk or density would unreasonably prevent the owner from using the property for a permitted purpose or would render conformity with such restrictions unnecessarily burdensome;
- 2) whether a grant of the variance applied for would do substantial injustice to applicant as well as to other property owners in the district or whether a lesser relaxation than that applied for would give substantial relief to the owner of the property involved and be more consistent with justice to other property owners; and
- 3) whether relief can be granted in such fashion that the spirit of the ordinance will be observed and public safety and welfare secured.

<u>Anderson</u>, p. 39. See also <u>McLean v. Soley</u>, 270 Md. 208 (1973) at pps. 214-215.

RECEIPTO FOR FILING

ORDER RECEIVED FOR FILING

I find from the testimony and evidence presented at the hearing before me that the Petitioners have, in fact, proven the practical difficulty standards as set forth above and that the variance requested should be granted. In the opinion of this Deputy Zoning Commissioner, the Petitioner has satisfied the burdens imposed upon him by the B.C.Z.R. proposed residence is certainly appropriate for a parcel of land this size and magnitude. I cannot think of a better use which will preserve the residential character, open views, and natural state of this property. It appears that the opposition to this request was generated by the fact that the Petitioners originally requested a height variance of 65 feet in lieu of the permitted 35. I can understand how a house with a roof line 65 feet height might generate concern and opposition from surrounding residents. I further find that the granting of this variance is in strict harmony with the spirit and intent of the B.C.Z.R. and that the granting of this relief is accomplished without injury to the public health, safety or general welfare.

Pursuant to advertisement, posting of the property, and public hearing held thereon, and for the reasons set forth above, the variance requested, as modified, should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Deputy Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County this A day of June, 1995 that the Petition for Variance seeking relief from Section 1A01.3.A of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit a dwelling height of 47 feet in lieu of the maximum permitted 35 feet, in accordance with Petitioner's Exhibit 1, be and is hereby GRANTED, subject to the following restrictions:

1) The Petitioners may apply for their building permit and be granted same upon receipt of this Order; however, Petitioners are hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at their own risk until such



time as the 30-day appellate process from this Order has expired. If, for whatever reason, this Order is reversed, the relief granted herein shall be rescinded.

2) The relief granted herein is limited to a single family residence in accordance with the site plan submitted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibit 1. The Petitioners shall not allow or cause the proposed structure to be converted for commercial use.

TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO

Deputy Zoning Commissioner

for Baltimore County

TMK:bjs

Baltimore County Government Zoning Commissioner Office of Planning and Zoning



Suite 112 Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue Towson, MD 21204

June 12, 1995

(410) 887-4386

Dr. & Mrs. Melvin Duckett P.O. Box 178 Phoenix, Maryland 21131

RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE

N/S Bacon Hall Road, 1400' E of the c/l of Gillett Road

(900 Bacon Hall Road)

7th Election District - 3rd Councilmanic District

Melvin Duckett, et ux - Petitioners

Case No. 95-351-A

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Duckett:

Enclosed please find a copy of the decision rendered in the above-captioned matter. The Petition for Variance has been granted in accordance with the attached Order.

In the event any party finds the decision rendered is unfavorable, any party may file an appeal to the County Board of Appeals within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order. For further information on filing an appeal, please contact the Zoning Administration and Development Management office at 887-3391.

Very truly yours,

TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO

Deputy Zoning Commissioner

Juntly lotroco

for Baltimore County

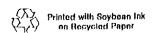
TMK:bjs

cc: Mr. Tim Sanders, Sanders Designs
108 W. Timonium Road, Timonium, Md. 21093

Ms. Kristen Forsyth, The Valleys Planning Council P.O. Box 5402, Towson, Md. 21285-5402

Mr. Tim Mullan 1620 Cold Bottom Road, Sparks, Md. 21152

People's Counsel Case File



RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE * BEFORE THE

900 Bacon Hall Road, N/S Bacon Hall Rd,
1400'+/- E of c/l Gillett Road, 7th * ZONING COMMISSIONER

Election District, 3rd Councilmanic * OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

Dr. Melvin Duckett and Kathy Duckett
Petitioner * CASE NO. 95-351-A

1-11

ENTRY OF APPEARANCE

Please enter the appearance of the People's Counsel in the above-captioned matter. Notice should be sent of any hearing dates or other proceedings in this matter and of the passage of any preliminary or final Order.

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN

People's Counsel for Baltimore County

wells, Demilio

Peter Max Zimmerman

CAROLE S. DEMILIO

Deputy People's Counsel

Room 47, Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue

Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-2188

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 26 day of April, 1995, a copy of the foregoing Entry of Appearance was mailed to Tim Sanders, Sanders Designs, 108 W. Timonium Road, Timonium, MD 21093, representative for Petitioners.

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN



Petition for Variance

to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County

for the property located at

900 Bacon Hall Road

which is presently zoned

RC-2

This Petition shall be filed with the Office of Zoning Administration & Development Management.

The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Variance from Section(s) 1A01.3.A

47 TMK

To allow a structure (dwelling) with a height of 55 feet in lieu of the maximum required 35 feet.

of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to the Zoning Law of Baltimore County, for the following reasons: (indicate hardship or practical difficulty)

Practical difficulty - restricted height would impact

the architectural design appropriateness of the project. Location of proposed dwelling on owner's property is such that the requested height variance should not impact upon neighboring properties.

Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by Zoning Regulations.

I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Variance advertising, posting, etc., upon filing of this petition, and further agree to and are to be bound by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the Zoning Law for Baltimore County.

(Type or Print Name)			P.O. Box 178 410-771-9024 Address Phone No.
			Phoenix, Maryland 21131
Signature			Name, Address and phone number of representative: to be contacted. Tim Sanders Sanders Designs
Address	Phone N	0.	108 W. Timonium Rd. 410-560-2624
City	Slale	Zipcode	Address Phone No.

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING ZONING DEPARTMENT OF BALTIMORE COUNTY Townen, Maryland

95-351-17

To de la constitución de la cons

District 7	Date of Posting 4/51/95
Posted for:	
Petitioner: Dr. No Win + Nathy Que	Kett
Posted for: Variance Petitioner: Dr. Nolvin + Kathy Due Location of property: 200 Bacon Ifall	Pd., N/5
Location of Signs: Faring rood way on	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Remarks: Posted by Madella Management	4/28/9
Signature Kumber of Signs:	Date of return: 11/28/95

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County will hold a public hearing on the property identified herein Ji Room 108 of the County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeaks Avenue in Towson, Maryland 21204 or Room 118, Did Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204 sa follows:

Case: #95-351-A
(Item 342)
900 Bacon Hall Road
N/S - Bacon Hall Road
1400' +/- E of c/l Giller
Road
7th Election District
3rd Councilmanic

Legal Owner(a):
Dr. Melvin Duckett and
Kathy Duckett
Hearing: Tuesday,
May 9, 1995 at 9:00 a.m.
In Rm. 106, County Office

Variance to allow a structure (dwelling) with a height of 68 feet in fleu of the maximum resourced 35 feet.

Building.

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT: Zoning Commissioner (or Baltimore County

NOTES: (1)Hearings are Handiscapped Accessible; for special discommodations Please Carl 887-3353,

(2)For information concerning the File and/or Hearing, Please Call 887-3391. 4/235 April 20.

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

THE JEFFERSONIAN.

LEGAL AD. TOWSON

Pablisher

BALTIMORE TUNTY, I DEFICE OF FIT LACE - REVE MISCELLANEOUS CASH	ENUE DIVISION	No. 15873
DATE July 14, 1995	ACÇOUNTR	001-6150
	AMOUNT \$	10.00
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FOR:AIMPELL 90	O Bacon Hall Road	
Case No.	95-351-A 0.560.5300	RI, \$210.40 214795
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the Marcola of Aministration & Development Management
10 West Chesapoake Avenue

Tok son, Maryland 21204

Date 1/4/95

DUCKETT - 300 Bacon Hall Rd.

010. VARIANCE - \$50.00

080 - EIGH _ . # 35.00

\$85.00

75-351-A

Account: R-001-6150

Number # 34/2

Taken by . JPT-

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CERTIFICATE OF POSTING ZONING DEPARTMENT OF BALTIMORE COUNTY 95-357-17 Townen, Maryland

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Posted for: Speal	Date of Posting 7/21/95
Posted for:	
Petitioner: Melvin Duckstt	* Tax
Location of property: 900 Bycom H	ell Reg 1/2
Location of Signs: Factoring 700 Lilly,	ion property being appealed for roundy
Remarks:	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Posted by Signature	Date of return: 7/08/55
Number of Signs:	
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111 West Chesapeake Avenue Fowson, MD 21204

(410) 887-3353

ZONING HEARING ADVERTISING AND POSTING REQUIREMENTS & PROCEDURES

Baltimore County Zoning Regulations require that notice be given to the general public/neighboring property owners relative to property which is the subject of an upcoming zoning hearing. For those petitions which require a public hearing, this notice is accomplished by posting a sign on the property and placement of a notice in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the County.

This office will ensure that the legal requirements for posting and advertising are satisfied. However, the petitioner is responsible for the costs associated with these requirements.

PAYMENT WILL BE MADE AS FOLLOWS:

- Posting fees will be accessed and paid to this office at the time of filing.
- 2) Billing for legal advertising, due upon receipt, will come from and should be remitted directly to the newspaper. NON-PAYMENT OF ADVERTISING FEES WILL STAY ISSUANCE OF ZONING ORDER.

ARNOLD JABLON, DIRECTOR

For newspaper advertising:
Item No.: 342
Petitioner:
Location: 900 Bacon Hall Road
PLEASE FORWARD ADVERTISING BILL TO: NAME: Dr. & Mrs. Melvin Duckett
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 178
Phoenix, MD 21131
PHONE NUMBER: 410-771-9024
MJ: ggs

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(Revised, 04/09/93).

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TO: PUTUXENT PUBLISHING COMPANY
April 20, 1995 Issue - Jeffersonian

Please foward billing to:

Dr. & Mrs. Melvin Duckett P. O. Box 178 Phoenix, MD 21131 771-9024

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing on the property identified herein in Room 106 of the County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue in Towson, Maryland 212Q4

Room 118, Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204 as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 95-351-A (Item 342)

900 Bacon Hall Road

N/S Bacon Hall Road, 1400'+/- E of c/l Gillett Road

7th Election District - 3rd Councilmanic

Legal Owners: Dr. Melvin Duckett and Kathy Duckett

HEARING: TUESDAY, MAY 9, 1995 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 106, County Office Building.

Variance to allow a structure (dwelling) with a height of 65 feet in lieu of the maximum required 35 feet.

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT
ZONING COMMISSIONER FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

NOTES: (1) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS PLEASE CALL 887-3353.

(2) FOR INFORMATION CONCERING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, PLEASE CALL 887-3391.







111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-3353

April 17, 1995

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore
County, will hold a public hearing on the property identified herein in
Room 106 of the County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue in Towson, Maryland 21204

Room 118, Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204 as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 95-351-A (Item 342)

900 Bacon Hall Road

N/S Bacon Hall Road, 1400'+/- E of c/l Gillett Road

7th Election District - 3rd Councilmanic

Legal Owners: Dr. Melvin Duckett and Kathy Duckett

HEARING: TUESDAY, MAY 9, 1995 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 106, County Office Building.

Variance to allow a structure (dwelling) with a height of 65 feet in lieu of the maximum required 35 feet.

Arnold Jablon Director

cc:

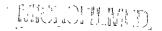
Dr. & Mrs. Melvin Duckett

Tim Sanders

NOTES: (1) ZONING SIGN & POST MUST BE RETURNED TO RM. 104, 111 W. CHESAPEAKE AVENUE ON THE HEARING DATE.

(2) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS PLEASE CALL 887-3353.

(3) FOR INFORMATION CONCERING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THIS OFFICE AT 887-3391.







County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

OLD COURTHOUSE, ROOM 49 400 WASHINGTON AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 (410) 887-3180

Hearing Room - Room 48
Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue

August 7, 1995

NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT

NO POSTPONEMENTS WILL BE GRANTED WITHOUT GOOD AND SUFFICIENT REASONS. REQUESTS FOR POSTPONEMENTS MUST BE IN WRITING AND IN STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 2(b). NO POSTPONEMENTS WILL BE GRANTED WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS OF SCHEDULED HEARING DATE UNLESS IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 2(c), COUNTY COUNCIL BILL NO. 59-79.

CASE NO. 95-351-A

MELVIN DUCKETT, ET UX
N/s Bacon Hall Road, 1400' E of c/l Gillett
Road (900 Bacon Hall Road)
7th Election District
3rd Councilmanic District

VAR -Dwelling height of 47' in lieu of maximum 35' (1A01.3A)

6/12/95 -D.Z.C.'s Order in which Petition for Variances is GRANTED with restrictions.

ASSIGNED FOR:

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1995 at 10:00 a.m.

cc: John Bernstein, Executive Director Valleys Planning Council

Appellant /Protestant

Dr. & Mrs. Melvin Duckett Mr. Tim Sanders Petitioners

Mr. Tim Mullin

Sanders Designs

People's Counsel for Baltimore County
Pat Keller
Lawrence E. Schmidt
Timothy M. Kotroco
W. Carl Richards, Jr. /PDM
Docket Clerk /PDM
Arnold Jablon, Director /PDM
Virginia W. Barnhart, County Attorney

Kathleen C. Weidenhammer Administrative Assistant

CASE NO. 95-351 A

MELVIN DUCKETT, ETUX

N/s Bacon Hall Road, 1400' E of the c/l of Gillett Road (900 Bacon Hall Road)

7th District Appealed: 7/11/95

KERN REALTY & APPRAISING, INC.

Appraisal Report of

COLD BOTTOM ROAD AT YEOHO ROAD

Sparks, Maryland 21152

May 15, 1989

Prepared by KERN REALTY & APPRAISING, INC.

Baltimore County Government Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management



111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-3353

May 4, 1995

Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Duckett P. O. Box 178 Phoenix, Maryland 21131

RE: Item No.: 342

Case No.: 95-351-A

Petitioner: Dr. M. Duckett, et ux

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Duckett:

The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC), which consists of representatives from Baltimore County approving agencies, has reviewed the plans submitted with the above referenced petition. Said petition was accepted for processing by, the Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management (ZADM), Development Control Section on April 4, 1995.

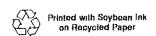
Any comments submitted thus far from the members of ZAC that offer or request information on your petition are attached. These comments are not intended to indicate the appropriateness of the zoning action requested, but to assure that all parties; i.e., zoning commissioner, attorney, petitioner, etc. are made aware of plans or problems with regard to the proposed improvements that may have a bearing on this case. Only those comments that are informative will be forwarded to you; those that are not informative will be placed in the permanent case file.

If you need further information or have any questions regarding these comments, please do not hesitate to contact the commenting agency or Joyce Watson in the zoning office (887-3391).

W. Carl Richards, Jr. Zoning Supervisor

W. Con Richard Ja

WCR/jw
Attachment(s)



AND MED

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Zoning Advisory Committee

FROM: Dick Seim - Building Plans Review

SUBJECT: Item No. (342) on the ZAC agenda for April 24, 1995

entitled "Variance to allow a structure (dwelling) with a height of 65 feet in lieu of the maximum

required 35 feet."

The applicable building code in Baltimore County for a dwelling is the CABO 1 and 2 Family Dwelling Code/1992 Edition or the BOCA National Building Code/1993

The CABO in Section R-103 entitle "Scope" states:
The provisions of this code apply to the construction, prefabrication, alteration, use, occupancy and maintenance of detached one or two family dwellings and one-family townhouses not more than 3 stories in height, and their accessory structures. The above subject residence is therefore not addressed by this code.

The BOCA Building Code does address the above subject residence and therefore is applicable.

Article 5 therein, entitled "General Building Limitations," specifically Section 503-Table 503, specifies the type of construction that is required for a dwelling based on the use group (R-3 in this case), height and area. This and all other requirements of this code for an "R-3 use" would apply.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-887-3987.



ZADM

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

T0:

Mr. Arnold Jablon, Director

May 1, 1995

Zoning Administration and Development Management

FROM:

J. Lawrence Pilson P Development Coordinator, DEPRM

SUBJECT:

Zoning Item(#342 -) Duckett Property

900 Bacon Hall Road

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting of April 17, 1995

The Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management offers the following comments on the above-referenced zoning item.

Ground Water Management

Prior to approval of site for a dwelling unit not served by public water or sewerage, a soil percolation test must be completed which demonstrates suitability of the soils to treat septic waste. Additionally, upon approval of soil percolation tests and prior to approval of a building permit for a dwelling, a well must be drilled which meets the minimum standard of one (1) gallon per minute (GPM) recovery yield.

There is no evidence that the above steps have been completed.

JLP:TE:sp

DUCKETT/DEPRM/TXTSBP

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Arnold Jablon, Director

Zoning Administration & Development Management

FROM: Pat Keller, Director

Office of Planning and Zoning

DATE: April 20, 1995

SUBJECT: Variance Requests

INFORMATION:

Item Numbers:

341 (342)

345, 348, 349, and 351

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS:

While staff does not oppose the requested Variances, it is clear that the petitioners will need to satisfy the burden imposed upon them to prove practical difficulty and/or unreasonable hardship to justify the granting of the subject Variances.

Prepared by:

Division Chief:

PK/JL

April 1995 A

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Arnold Jablon, Director DATE: April 24, 1995 Zoning Administration and Development Management

FROM: Robert W. Bowling, P.E., Chief Developers Engineering Section

RE: Soning Advisory Committee Meeting for April 24, 1995
Items 341, 342, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, and 351

The Developers Engineering Section has reviewed the subject zoning item and we have no comments.

RWB:sw

9 41 6

Baltimore County Government Fire Department



700 East Joppa Road Suite 901 Towson, MD 21286-5500

(410) 887-4500

DATE: 04719795

Arnold Jablon
Director
Zoning Administration and
Development Management
Paltimore County Office Building
Towson, MD 21204
MAIL STOP-1105

RE: Property Owner: SEE BELOW

LOCATION: DISTRIBUTION MEETING OF AFR. 17, 1995.

Ilam No.: BEE BELOW

Zoning Agenda:

Centlemen:

Pursuant to your request, the referenced property has been an veyed by this Bureau and the comments below are applicable and required to be corrected or incorporated into the final plans for the property.

8. The Fire Marshal's Office has no comments at this time. IN REFERENCE TO THE FOLLOWING ITEM NUMBERS: 341, 342, 344, 345, 347, 348, 347, 350 AND 351.

REVIEWER: LT. ROBERT P. SAUERWALD
Fire Marshal Office, FHONE 887-4881, MS-1108F

cc: File

MIGROFILMED



Maryland Department of Transportation State Highway Administration

Administrator

4-14-95

Ms. Joyce Watson Zoning Administration and Development Management County Office Building Room 109 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

Re:

Baltimore County
Item No.: 342 (TRF)

Dear Ms. Watson:

This office has reviewed the referenced item and we have no objection to approval as it does not access a State roadway and is not effected by any State Highway Administration project.

Please contact Bob Small at 410-333-1350 if you have any questions.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this item.

Very truly yours, Bob Small

Ronald Burns, Chief Engineering Access Permits

Division

BS/

My telephone number is .

PETITION PROBLEMS 95-351-H AGENDA OF APRIL 17, 1995

#342 --- JRF

1. No item number on petition forms.

#344 --- MJK

1. No telephone number for legal owner.

#350 --- MJK??/JCM??

- 1. Who took in petition? MJK signed petition form; JCM signed receipt.
- 2. No original copy of receipt in folder; just xerox. Where is receipt?

#351 --- JJS

1. Notary section is incorrect/incomplete.

Baltimore County Government Department of Permits and Licenses



111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-3610

July 14, 1995

Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Duckett P.O. Box 178 Phoenix, Maryland 21133

RE: Petition for Variance
N/S Bacon Hall Road, 1400 ft. E
of the c/l of Gillett Road
(900 Bacon Hall Road)
7th Election District
3rd Councilmanic District
Melvin Duckett, et ux-Petitioner
Case No. 95-351-A

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Duckett:

Please be advised that an appeal of the above-referenced case was filed in this office on July 11, 1995 by John Bernstein, the Valleys Planning Council, Inc. All materials relative to the case have been forwarded to the Board of Appeals.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Julie Winiarski at 887-3353.

ARNOLD JABLON

Director

Department of Permits and Development Management

AJ:bb

cc: Mr. Tim Sanders

Mr. Tim Mullan People's Counsel





APPEAL

Petition for Variance

N/S Bacon Hall Road, 1400 ft.

E of the c/l Gillett Road

(900 Bacon Hall Road)

7th Election District - 3rd Councilmanic District

Melvin Duckett, et ux-PETITIONER

Case No. 95-351-A

Petition(s) for Variance

Description of Property

Certificate of Posting

Certificate of Publication

Entry of Appearance of People's Counsel

Zoning Plans Advisory Committee Comments

Petitioner(s) and Protestant(s) Sign-In Sheets

Plat to Accompany Petition for Variance (not marked as exhibit)

One Photograph

Letter to Zoning Commissioner from John Bernstein dated April 26, 1995

Deputy Zoning Commissioner's Order dated June 12, 1995 (Granted)

Notice of Appeal received on July 11, 1995 from John Bernstein, The Valleys Planning Council

CC: John Bernstein, The Valleys Planning Council, Inc., 212
Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 5402, Towson, Maryland 21285
Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Duckett, P.O. Box 178, Phoenix, Maryland 21131
Mr. Tim Sanders, Sanders Designs, 108 W. Timonium Road, Timonium,
Maryland 21093
Mr. Tim Mullin, 1620 Cold Bottom Road, Sparks, Maryland 21152
People's Counsel of Baltimore County, M.S. 2010

Request Notification: Patrick Keller, Director, Planning & Zoning Timothy M. Kotroco, Deputy Zoning Commissioner Arnold Jablon, Director of PDM

APPEAL

Petition for Variance
N/S Bacon Hall Road, 1400 ft.
E of the c/l Gillett Road
(900 Bacon Hall Road)
7th Election District - 3rd Councilmanic District
Melvin Duckett, et ux-PETITIONER
Case No. 95-351-A

AMENDED

Protestant's Exhibit(s) 1 - Development Plan of the Grimes Property

Three Board Exhibits for the New Residence for Dr. & Kathy Duckett

cc: John Bernstein, The Valleys Planning Council, Inc., 212 Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 5402, Towson, Maryland 21285 Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Duckett, P.O. Box 178, Phoenix, Maryland 21131 Mr. Tim Sanders, Sanders Designs, 108 W. Timonium Road, Timonium, Maryland 21093 Mr. Tim Mullin, 1620 Cold Bottom Road, Sparks, Maryland 21152 People's Counsel of Baltimore County, M.S. 2010

Request Notification: Patrick Keller, Director, Planning & Zoning Timothy M. Kotroco, Deputy Zoning Commissioner Arnold Jablon, Director of PDM 8/07/95 -Notice of Assignment for hearing scheduled for Tuesday, November 21, 1995 at 10:00 a.m. sent to following:

John Bernstein, Executive Director
Valleys Planning Council
Dr. & Mrs. Melvin Duckett
Mr. Tim Sanders
Sanders Designs
Mr. Tim Mullin
People's Counsel for Baltimore County
Pat Keller
Lawrence E. Schmidt
Timothy M. Kotroco
W. Carl Richards, Jr. /PDM
Docket Clerk /PDM
Arnold Jablon, Director /PDM
Virginia W. Barnhart, County Attorney

- 11/21/95 -Hearing concluded this date. To be scheduled for public deliberation.
- 12/01/95 -Rule 8 papers filed by Valleys Planning Council.
- 2/09/96 -Notice of Deliberation sent to parties; scheduled for Thursday, March 7, 1996 at 9:00 a.m. Copies also to R.C.B.
- 3/04/96 -Letter from P. Zimmerman regarding Turkey Point case and application of holding in same to this proceeding (submittal of this letter was granted at conclusion of hearing /prior to oral closing).



County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

OLD COURTHOUSE, ROOM 49 400 WASHINGTON AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 (410) 887-3180

February 9, 1996

NOTICE OF DELIBERATION

Having concluded this case on November 21, 1995, the County Board of Appeals has scheduled the following date and time for deliberation in the matter of:

> MELVIN DUCKETT, ET UX -Petitioners CASE NO. 95-351-A

DATE AND TIME :

Thursday, March 7, 1996 at 9:00 a.m.

LOCATION

Room 48, Basement, Old Courthouse

John Bernstein, Executive Director cc:

Valleys Planning Council

Appellant /Protestant

Petitioners

Dr. & Mrs. Melvin Duckett

Mr. Tim Sanders

Sanders Designs

Mr. Tim Mullin

People's Counsel for Baltimore County Pat Keller Lawrence E. Schmidt Timothy M. Kotroco W. Carl Richards, Jr. /PDM Docket Clerk /PDM Arnold Jablon, Director /PDM Virginia W. Barnhart, County Attorney

> Kathleen C. Bianco Administrative Assistant

Copied: R.C.B.

Printed with Soybean Ink on Recycled Paper

COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

MINUTES OF DELIBERATION

IN THE MATTER OF: Melvin Duckett, et ux

Case No. 95-351-A

DATE : March 7, 1996 @ 9:10 a.m.

BOARD / PANEL : Robert O. Schuetz (ROS)

Charles L. Marks (CLM)

Harry E. Buchheister, Jr. (HEB)

SECRETARY: Kathleen C. Bianco

Administrative Assistant

Those present at this deliberation included John Bernstein, Executive Director, The Valleys Planning Council; and Carole S. Demilio, Deputy People's Counsel for Baltimore County.

ROS: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. We are here on Case No. 95-351-A, Melvin Duckett, et ux. The purpose is to deliberate the matter in conformance with the open meetings law. I will go first.

I think it's a pretty simple cut-and-dried case. This is a Petition for Variance. The record will reflect that I gave Dr. Duckett no less than two chances, possibly three, to illustrate for the Board how his property meets the test pursuant to Cromwell v. Ward. I also gave him a few opportunities to continue the matter so that he could come back better prepared. Instead, opting on his request to press forward, I found nothing unique about this property which would lead the Board to believe it's necessary to provide a variance. Nor do I see any opportunity for any hardship in this particular matter either. Therefore, I would deny the variance.

(Noted at this point that he had just received notice that Dr. Duckett was on his way.)

HEB: It's a fantastic residence; a most impressive structure it seems. But as the Chairman has said, there's really no merit in granting variance he requests. I think with a 35-foot height, a very substantial, attractive mansion, manor house, whatever, can be put on this site without the variance, and it should be denied.

CLM: In reaching a decision on this variance, I had the opportunity to review the file, notes at the hearing of November 21, and various exhibits offered into evidence and identification. Petitioner elected to appear in a de novo hearing and presented his case in exemplary manner as to why variance

Deliberation /Melvin Duckett, et ux /95-351-A

should be granted by the Board; only element missing was relative to legal aspects that govern in such cases; request is for a variance from 1A01.3A of the zoning regulations to permit height of 65' instead of permitted 35'. In actuality, the correct measurement is from the peak of the roof and not from the top of the cupola. It appears to be 47' and not 65'.

Section 307.1 sets forth the requirements for granting of variance. Such variance can only be granted in situations where special circumstances or conditions exist peculiar to the land or structure which is the subject of the variance request, and where strict compliance with the zoning would result regulations in practical difficulty Additionally, if the variance is unreasonable hardship. granted, it must be in strict harmony with the spirit and intent of height and area regulations, and only without injury to the health, safety and general welfare. There is no other power to grant.

And if the Board should grant the variance, needs to be stated findings of fact setting forth the reasons. Maryland courts have provided guidance in recent years. Questions are as follows: Whether special conditions exist; Special circumstances related to hardship; Hardship not generally shared by other properties; Is property unusual in topography, by shape or size; Is it the uniqueness of the land or the plight of the owner that is the problem?

This property consists of 237+ acres. The valley area contains varying parcels of greater and lesser land usage; some lots containing 300 or greater acreage. Testimony proffered indicated that such property was quite typical of entire valley; nothing inherently unusual or unique. The average structure height is 20 to 25 feet. There are no other structures exceeding height restrictions in the area. Argument was advanced by Appellants - to preserve and protect the area; must be overcome to grant variance. Restrictions on Petitioner's property do not solely apply to Dr. Duckett, but all properties in the area.

If a hardship is present, it's not imposed by the subject site but rather by the building plans themselves. It is difficult to believe that a lending institution would deny financing because of height restrictions, when site already gains an imposing view of surrounding neighborhood and such large acreage. The Petitioner has not demonstrated that the property suffers any unusual or singular disadvantage not commensurate to other properties in the area. Reversal would lie in legislative change. The variance request should be denied.

Deliberation /Melvin Duckett, et ux /95-351-A

ROS: We are unanimous. The written decision will come out from the Board at some future date; not necessarily today. But any Petition for Judicial Review should come from the date of that Order and not today's date. Thank you.

(Petition for Variance DENIED.)

* * * * * * *

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen C. Bianco

Administrative Assistant





OFFICE OF PEOPLE'S COUNSEL

Room 47, Old Court House 400 Washington Ave. Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-2188

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN People's Counsel CAROLE S. DEMILIO
Deputy People's Counsel

MEMORANDUM TO: All Civic Associations

DATE: June 22, 1993

FROM

People's Counsel for Baltimore County

SUBJECT

: Appearance before the Board of Appeals as Representative of a Civic Association

Attached to this memorandum is a copy of Rule 8 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the County Board of Appeals which governs the appearance before the Board of representatives of civic or improvement associations.

This rule requires the following:

- 1. That the person who testifies can describe accurately the number of members in the association and the geographic limits of the association; and
- 2. That the person is authorized to speak for and present the views of the association. This second requirement can only be met by:

(*or at a special meeting)

- a. A resolution (in duplicate) adopted by the association at its annual meeting or first meeting of the year *signed by the president and attested by the secretary. This resolution must state that the responsibility for review and action of all zoning matters is placed in the board of directors or a duly elected zoning committee; and
- b. A written affidavit (in duplicate) signed by the president of the association and attested by the secretary that he is currently a duly elected member of the board of directors or zoning committee of that association, or is an attorney appointed to represent the board of directors or zoning committee; and
- c. A resolution (in duplicate) adopted by the board of directors or zoning committee signed by the president and attested by the secretary stating the position of the association.

For your assistance, we have also attached sample resolutions and affidavits which may be used by your association. They have been reviewed by the Board of Appeals for form, but, of course, the substance remains the responsibility of the community association.

Peter Max Zimmerman

Peter Max Alimineliment
People's Counsel for Baltimore County

Enclosures

Valleys Planning Coural ASSOCIATION

RESOLVED: That at the $\frac{1}{2}$
Valleys Planny wind Association held on
$\frac{\sqrt{3}}{\sqrt{6}}$, 19 $\frac{65}{\sqrt{5}}$, it was decided by the
Association that responsibility for review and action on all zoning
matters for the period 1995 be
placed in the (Board of Directors) (Zoning Committee) consisting of
the following members:
See attached.
-th
AS WITNESS OUR HANDS AND SEAL THIS 10th day of
ATTEST: Vally Planing Cruck Association
Secretary President B. Buck

Valley Planny Wund ASSOCIATION

RESOLVED: That the position of the Vally 5
Daniel Marie Che posicion of the whole
Planny Comul Association as adopted by the (Board
of Directors) (Zoning Committee) on the zoning matter known as:
Bacon Hall Vanance - Melnn
Dukett.
is that:
The varance shall be opposed
by the Valleys Planny Comus
AS WITNESS OUR HANDS AND SEAL THIS 10th day of
ATTEST: <u>Valleys Planning</u> Association
A Echand B. Buch
Secretary President

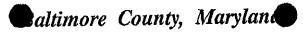
AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF MARYLAND BALTIMORE COUNTY, SS:

TO WIT:	Exentive
I hereby swear upon penal	ity of perjury that I am currently a Dire
	ard of Directors) (Zoning Committee)
of the Valleys Planton	My Chril Association.
	John Bensten
ATTEST:	Valleys Planning bring Association
Secretary	President B. Buch
DATE: 11 24 55	

EXCERPT FROM RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE OF COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS

- Rule 8. Special rule pertaining to persons appearing before the board as representatives of civic or improvement associations.
- a. Before any person shall testify on behalf of any civic or improvement association, it shall be shown that he has accurate knowledge of the number of members in the association and geographical limits of the association.
- b. Before any such person shall testify it shall also be shown that he is authorized to speak for and present the views of the civic or improvement association.
- c. Such authorization shall consist of presenting at the hearing or prior thereto a resolution in duplicate duly adopted by the association at its annual meeting or first meeting of each year, signed by the president and attested by the secretary, providing that the responsibility for review and action on all zoning matters be placed in its board of directors or a duly elected zoning committee.
- d. Before any such authorized person shall testify, it shall be shown by written affidavit in duplicate, signed by the president of the association and attested by the secretary, that he is currently a duly elected member of the board of directors or zoning committee of that association, or is an attorney appointed to represent the board of directors or zoning committee.
- e. Before any such authorized person shall testify, a resolution stating the position of the association as adopted by the board of directors or zoning committee, signed by the president and attested by the secretary, shall also be produced in duplicate at the hearing.





OFFICE OF PEOPLE'S COUNSEL

Room 47, Old CourtHouse 400 Washington Ave. Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-2188

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN People's Counsel CAROLE S. DEMILIO Deputy People's Counsel

> () ()

March 4, 1996

Mr. Robert O. Schuetz, Chairman Board of Appeals of Baltimore County Room 49 Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue Towson, MD 21204

Hand-delivered

Re: 900 Bacon Hall Road, N/S Bacon Hall Rd, 1400'+/- E of c/l Gillett Road, 7th Election Dist., 3rd Councilmanic MELVIN DUCKETT, ET UX., Petitioners Case No. 95-351-A

Dear Chairman Schuetz:

At the conclusion of the hearing and prior to oral closing argument, our office requested permission to elect to submit written comments concerning the application of the holding in Turkey Point Property Owners Association, Inc. v. Anderson.

The parties were advised of this Court of Special Appeals case immediately prior to the Board hearing. Our office had not had an opportunity to obtain or read the opinion.

You agreed to accept written comments on this issue. You also indicated the Board is seeking an opinion from the Office of Law as to whether this decision applies to hearings before the Board of Appeals.

In <u>Turkey Point</u>, a non-attorney filed an order of appeal and Memorandum in the Circuit Court on behalf of a community association. The individual also presented oral argument at the Circuit Court. The opinion focused on representation and participation of the community association before the Circuit Court.

In the instant case, Valleys Planning Council, Inc. (VPC) participated at the hearing before the Deputy Zoning Commissioner. VPC noted an appeal to the County Board of Appeals in compliance with BCZR Section 500.10, which states:

NICHOTILMED

Mr. Robert O. Schuetz, Chairman Board of Appeals of Baltimore County March 4, 1996 Page Two

"Any person or persons, jointly or severally, or any taxpayer or any official, department, board or bureau of Baltimore County, feeling aggrieved by any decision of the zoning commissioner shall have the right to appeal therefrom to the board of zoning appeals. Notice of such appeal shall be filed, in writing, with the zoning commissioner within ten days from the date of any final order appealed from. Such appeals shall be heard and disposed of by the board of zoning appeals as hereinafter provided." (Footnotes omitted.)

(See also Baltimore County Code, Section 26-132, attached.)

BCZR Appendix G Rule 4 sets forth the procedure to conduct hearings before the Board of Appeals.

BCZR Appendix G Rule 6(a) addresses Appearance and Practice before the Board, and states:

"Any individual who is a party to a proceeding before the board may appear in his own behalf; any member of a partnership may appear as representing said partnership if it is a party; a duly authorized officer of a corporation, trust or an association may appear as representing said body if it is a party to the proceedings; and a duly authorized officer or an employee of any political subdivision or body or department may represent the same in any proceeding before the Board."

BCZR Rule 8 permits community associations to participate in Board hearings with a designated representative.

Thus, VPC was authorized to file an appeal of the Zoning Commissioner's decision and to participate through a representative at the Board hearing.

Our office is authorized to appear and participate in zoning matters before the Board of Appeals. See Baltimore County Charter Section 524.1.

The Deputy People's Counsel conducted the Protestants' case at the hearing in the instant case. The authorized representative from VPC testified on the organization's position in the case.

Therefore, in compliance with <u>Turkey Point</u>, a licensed attorney conducted direct examination of the VPC witness, cross examination of the Petitioner, and presented opening and closing legal arguments.

RATE OF CONTRACTOR SERVICE

Mr. Robert O. Schuetz, Chairman Board of Appeals of Baltimore County March 4, 1996 Page Three

If the Board of Appeals should determine that a corporation or association must be represented by counsel at Board hearings, it is submitted that the facts in the instant case do not violate the holding in Turkey Point. An attorney conducted the hearing of an appeal lawfully filed in accordance with the Baltimore County Code.

Very truly yours,

Peter Max Zimmerman

People's Counsel for Baltimore County

Peter May Zimmermark

Carole S. Demilio

Deputy People's Counsel

PMZ/CSD/caf

cc: Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Duckett

Mr. Tim Sanders, Sanders Designs

Mr. John Bernstein, Executive Director Valleys Planning Council

PLANNING, ZONING AND SUBDIVISION CONTROL

- (b) The zoning commissioner shall furnish with reasonable promptness a copy of any paper or record in his office to any person applying for same upon payment in advance of the sum of fifty cents (\$0.50) per page or as otherwise established by the administrative officer for transcribing, photographing, or otherwise reproducing such paper. Such reproduction when so made and certified under the seal of the zoning commissioner shall be evidence in any court or before any county board, commission, or official.
- (c) The zoning commissioner shall permit any resident of the county or representative of the press to inspect and examine, as soon as received for filing or at any time thereafter, all papers filed in the zoning commissioner's office and to make memoranda or notes therefrom for any lawful purpose whatsoever, without payment of fees therefor, and also to examine the records and indexes in his office, free of charge. It shall be the duty of the zoning commissioner to afford such person immediate access to such papers or records and a full opportunity to examine the same and make memoranda therefrom.
- (d) All records kept by the zoning commissioner shall be open to inspection by the county executive or any member of the county council at all reasonable times, whether or not such records are required to be kept by statute or ordinance. The zoning commissioner is authorized, in his discretion, to permit other county officials to remove a zoning file from his office; provided such official signs a regular receipt book to be kept by the zoning commissioner as a permanent record which shall show the date and time that such file is taken and returned. When the file is returned, the receipt book must be signed by the person who had withdrawn the file and countersigned by the zoning commissioner or his deputy.
- (e) Nothing contained in this title or elsewhere shall prevent the zoning commissioner from transferring any file in his official custody to the board of appeals or to any circuit court or to the state court of appeals while review of proceedings is pending, and upon making such transfer the zoning commissioner is hereby relieved from any duties or responsibilities in connection therewith until such file is returned to him.

(f) The provisions of this section shall be executed by the deputy zoning commissioner as well as the zoning commissioner, and they may delegate to their chief clerk the performance of the daily duties and responsibilities in connection therewith.

(Code 1978, § 22-30; Bill No. 18, 1990, § 2; Bill No. 4, 1992, § 1)

Sec. 26-132. Appeals to county board of appeals.

- (a) Any person or persons, jointly or severally. or any taxpayer aggrieved or feeling aggrieved by any decision or order of the zoning commissioner or the director of zoning administration and development management shall have the right to appeal therefrom to the county board of appeals. No official, office, department, or board of the county aggrieved or feeling aggrieved by any decision of the zoning commissioner shall have the right to appeal therefrom to the county board of appeals without the prior approval of the administrative officer and the county attorney. People's counsel is not subject to such prior approval. Notice of such appeals shall be filed, in writing, with the director within thirty (30) days from the date of any final order appealed, together with the required fee as provided in the zoning regulations. Such appeals shall be heard and disposed of by the county board of appeals as may be provided in the Charter and the board's own rules of procedure. Any reclassification when granted by the county board of appeals shall, in the absence of an appeal therefrom, have the force and effect of law.
- (b) For purposes of this section, the term "person aggrieved or feeling aggrieved" includes a duly constituted civic, improvement, or community association if:
 - (1) The property or issue which is the subject of the final order being appealed is:
 - a. Located within the geographic limits of the association, said limits to be defined and determined by the first of the following criteria found applicable:
 - 1. If incorporated, any geographic description contained in the associa-

- tion's corporate articles, bylaws, charter, or similar document;
- If not so incorporated, by any metes and boundaries description for the association contained in any zoning map, plat, or similar document on file at the county department of public works, the land records office of the county, or at some other county governmental agency or department;
- 3. If no such description exists, by any street, road, or thoroughfare description for the association contained in any zoning map, plat, or similar document on file in the county department of public works, the land records office of the county, or at some other county governmental agency or department; or
- b. The property or issue is of such a nature and kind as to be within the association's discernable and assessable tax base if such exists; or of such a nature as to personally and specifically affect, damage, or impact the members of the association in a way different from that suffered by the members of any other associations or in a way different from a general interest such as is the concern shared by the public in general; or of such a nature or type as to give the members of the association a valid and discernible property interest therein or right thereto.
- (2) The association complies with the rules of procedure of the board.

(Code 1978, § 22-32; Bill No. 18, 1990, § 2; Bill No. 116, 1990, § 2; Bill No. 4, 1992, § 1)

Annotations—Remedy provided under title 34 of 1958 Code held to be an alternative to that afforded by this section, at least where it is affirmatively alleged that the planning board has violated zoning regulations and that a violation of either the zoning or the subdivision regulations was subject to an injunction under title 34. Lynn v. Goldman, 216 Md. 562, 141 A.2d 172 (1958).

County council need not follow the recommendations of the planning board, and need not have any further or additional hearing in regard to any changes or amendments the county

council may see fit to make. Swathmore Company v. Kaestner, 258 Md. 517, 266 A.2d 341 (1970).

The people's counsel has the right to appeal zoning decisions. People's Counsel for Baltimore County v. Williams, 45 Md. App. 617, 415 A.2d 585 (1974).

Sec. 26-133. Appeals from the county board of appeals.

Appeals from the county board of appeals to the courts may be taken in the manner provided in article VI of the Charter.

(Code 1978, § 22-33)

Annotations—This section (34-7, 1958 Code) directs that the court of appeals shall not award cost of the appeal against any party to the appeal except the appellant. Kroen v. Board of Zoning Appeals of Baltimore County 209 Md. 420, 121 A.2d 181 (1956).

The adoption of a new land use may have caused issuance of the appeal to become moot. This section directs that the court of appeals should not award cost of the appeal against any party to the appeal except the appellant. Lake Falls Assn. v. Board of Zoning Appeals of Baltimore County, 209 Md. 561, 121 A.2d 809 (1956); Grau v. Board of Zoning Appeals of Baltimore County, 210 Md. 21, 122 A.2d 825 (1956); Hardesty v. Board of Zoning Appeals of Baltimore County, 211 Md. 174, 126 A.2d 621 (1956).

Cited in Prince George's County v. Donohue, 220 Md. 372, 152 A.2d 560 (1959).

Construed in Renz v. Bonfield Holding Co., 223 Md. 34, 158 A.2d 615 (1960).

This section before amendment provided that in the appeal of zoning cases "the court of appeals shall not award cost of the appeal against any party to the appeal except the appellant." Maryland Rule 882a provides that in all cases in the court of appeals "the awarding of costs shall be in the discretion of this court, but unless it is otherwise ordered by this court, costs shall be awarded against the losing party." Field, that Maryland Rule 882 applies. Reese et al. v. Mandel et ux., 224 Md. 121, 167 A.2d 111 (1961).

Referred to in Renz v. Bonfield Holding Co., 223 Md. 34, 158 A.2d 615 (1960).

A person who was not a party to a proceeding before the board of appeals has no standing to appeal from an order entered by the board of appeals, Hitzrot v. County Board of Appeals, 262 Md. 297, 278 A.2d 11 (1971).

Sec. 26-134. Correction of zoning map.

(a) The owner of any property may give written notice to the director of planning and zoning that the zoning map last enacted by the county council does not accurately reflect the final zoning classification imposed by the council on the owner's property during the last or prior comprehensive

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April 8, 1993

DESCRIPTION OF
ELISE GILLET BOYCE PROPERTY

a.h.a. Bacon ifall Farm
Lecated sear Sparks

5th & 7th ELECTION DISTRICTS
BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Beginning for the same at a point on the western right-of-way of Interstate 83, a.k.a. Beltimore-Harrisburg Expressway, a variable width right-of-way, at a point located 105' westerly along a radial line from southbound center-line station 563+00 as determined from State Highway Administration iron rods found at northbound centerline station 542+54.42 and station 587+03.60 and as conveyed to the State Roads Commission of Maryland by deed dated Pebruary 5, 1960 and recorded among the land records of Beltimore County in Liber 3665 at Folio 414 and shown on State Roads Commission Plats 21150, 21151, and 21152 and as conveyed to the State of Maryland to the use of The State Highway Administration of the Department of Transportation by deed dated April 24, 1972 and shown on State Roads Commission Plats 36715 and 36716 and on file at the State Highway Administration; said beginning point being also described as located at the point of beginning for the conveyance to Elise Gillet Boyce by deed dated September 22, 1981 and recorded in Liber 6331 at Folio 105.

Thence leaving the point of beginning and running reversely with the eighteenth through twenty-sixth courses of said Liber 6331 at Folio 105 and running with said western right-of-way of Interstate 83 the following nine courses and distances, as now surveyed and adjusted to reflect the Baltimore County Azimuth as determined from Baltimore County Traverse Stations 14912 and 14913;

- 1. South 36°18'51" East 48.27';
- 2. South 55"45'50" East 51.66';
- 3. South 39°44'29" East 196.35';
- 4. South 26"12'36" East 146.88';
- 5. South 26"06'49" East 146,35';
- 6. South 21°33'56" East 344.18';
- 7. South 18°35'13" East 256.57' to a point of curvature;

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BEAVIN COMPANY April 8, 1993

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Thence continuing with said right-of-way 102.59' along the arc of a non-tangent left circular curve having a radius of 3,955.10' and a long chord bearing and distance of;

8. South 25"39"23" East - 102.59";

Thence leaving said curve and continuing with said right-of-way;

9. South 22°18'57" East - 635.03' to a point located at the end of the second course of the conveyance to John W. Sieverts and Donna W. Sieverts, his wife, by deed dated July 17, 1985 and recorded in Liber 6966 at Polio 574;

Thence leaving said right-of-way of Interstate 83 and continuing reversely with the seventeenth through the fifteenth courses of Liber 6331 at Polio 105 and running with third through the fifth courses of said Liber 6996 at Polio 574 the following three courses and distances;

- 10. North 88'17'55' West 92.93' to an iron rod found and passing over an iron rod found at a distance of 0.71' from the beginning of this course;
- 11. North 31"58'41" West 159.41' to an iron rod found;
- 12. North 79*39'24" West 222.04' to an iron rod found;

Thence leaving the outline of said Liber 6331 at Folio 105 and continuing with the sixth course of said Liber 6966 at Folio 574 and running reversely with a portion of the second course of the conveyance to Elise Gillet Boyce by deed dated February 15, 1955 and recorded in Liber 2655 at Folio 443;

13. South 10°20'24" East · 874.91' to a railroad spike found in the approximate centerline of Bacon Hall Road at the northeasternmost corner of the tract labeled "Area of Dedication" as conveyed to Baltimore County by deed dated September 8, 1981 and as shown on the plat of Lot 1 of the Elise Gillet Boyce Property recorded among the Plat Records of Baltimore County in Plat Book 48 at Folio 41;

Thence leaving the outline of said Liber 2655 at Folio 443 and Liber 6966 at Folio 574 and running with the northern and western lines of said "Area of Dedication" the following two courses and distances:

14. North 75"38'49" West - 713.32' to a railroad spike found in the approximate centerline of Bacon Hall Road at the northwesternmost corner of said "Area of Dedication";

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15. South 03°16'11" West - 877.56' to a concrete monument found at the southwesternmost corner of said Lot 1 - Elize Gillet Boyce Property and located on the northern line of Lot 2 as shown on the plat of Gillet Woods recorded in Plat Book 44 at Folio 68 and passing over a concrete monument found at the northwesternmost corner of said Lot 1 - Blize Gillet Boyce Property at a distance of 30.51' from the beginning of this course;

Thence leaving said southwesternmost corner and the outline of Lot 1 - Elize Gillet Boyce Property and running with the northern line said Lot 2 - Gillet Woods;

16. North 82°18'12' West - 724.21' to a concrete monument found at the common corner of Lot 1 and Lot 2 of said Gillet Woods and passing over an iron pipe found at a distance of 238.37' from the beginning of this course;

Thence leaving said common corner and the outline of said Lot 2 - Gillet Woods and running with the northern line of said Lot 1 - Gillet Woods;

17. North 82°17'31" West - 424.19' to an iron pipe found at the northwesternmost corner of said Lot 1 - Gillet Woods located on the eastern right- of-way of Cedar Grove Road, a 50' wide road right-of-way, as conveyed to the State Roads Commission of Maryland by deed dated June 11, 1956 recorded in Liber 2947 at Folio 444 as shown on State Roads Commission Plat 12048 on file at the State Highway Administration:

Thence leaving said northwesternmost comer and the outline of Lot 2 - Gillet Woods and running with said eastern right-of-way line of Cedar Grove Road the following two courses and distances;

- 18. North 10°57'59" West 871.99' to an iron rod set;
- 19. North 73°07'27" East 66.21' to an iron rod set on the southern right-of-way of Bacon Hall Road;

Thence continuing with sold right-of-way of Cedar Grove Road across Bacon Hall Road;

20. North 22°47'01" East - 30,00' to an iron rod set on the northern right-of-way of said Bacon Hall Road at a point of curvature;

Thence continuing with said right-of-way of Cedar Grove Road along said northern right-of-way of Bacon Hall Road 134.04' along the arc of a non-tangent right circular curve having a radius of 194.01' and a long chord bearing and distance of:

21. North 49°52'36" West - 131.39' to an iron rod set on the eastern right-of-way of said Cedar Grove Road;

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Thence leaving said curve and said right-of-way of Bacon Hall Road and running with said eastern right-of-way of Cedar Grove Road the following two courses and distances;

22. North 10'57'59" West - 30.00' to an Iron rod set;

23. North 22°16'34" West - 50,99' to an iron rod set on the eastern right-of-way of said Bacon Hall Road;

Thence leaving said eastern right-of-way of Bacon Hall Road and continuing with said right-of-way of Cedar Grove Road across said Bacon Hall Road;

24. South 79'02'01" West - 30,00' to iron rod set on the western right-of-way of said Bacon Hall Road and said Cedar Grove Road;

Thence leaving the right-of-way of said Bacon Hall Road and running with said right-of-way of Cedar grove Road the following two courses and distances;

25. South 00'20'37' West - 50.99' to an iron rod set;

26. South 10'57'59' East - 278.06' to an iron rod found at the northeast-most corner of Lot 1 as shown on the Plat of Subdivision - Boyce Property recorded in Liber 8023 at Folio 491 as conveyed to Charles Cole and Linda C. Pabet by deed dated August 31, 1988 and recorded in Liber 8023 at Folio 489 located along the second course of the saving and excepting clause of the conveyance to The Vestry of Immanuel Parish, Baltimore County from Elise Gillet Boyce by deed June 29, 1964 and recorded in Liber 4322 at Folio 518; Thence leaving said right-of-way of Cedar Grove Road and running reversely with the remainder of said second course and the northern line of said Lot 1 - Boyce Property and running with the northern outline of the conveyance to Larry Richard Steranka by deed dated Febuary 19, 1990 and recorded in Liber 8424 at Folio 634 and as shown on the plat of survey for Norma L. Buchanan recorded in Liber 8759 at Folio 932 and running reversely with a portion of the thirteenth course of said Liber 2655 at Folio 443;

27. South 67°54'31" West - 352.79' to an iron pipe found at the end of the second course of the conveyance to Norma L. Meier by deed dated April 28, 1976 and recorded in Liber 8537 at Folio 325 and located at the end of the twelth course of said Liber 2655 at Folio 443;

Thence leaving said outline of Liber 8424 at Folio 634 and running with the northern outline of said Liber 8537 at Folio 325 and with the northern outline of the conveyance to Louis M. Bell and Deasue Bell, his wife, by deed dated April 5, 1979 and recorded in Liber 6007 at Folio 52 and reversely with a portion of said twelth course;

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28. North 80°02'48" West - 274,99' to an iron pipe found at the beginning of the seventh course of the conveyance to John B. Merryman and Katherine W. Merryman, his wife, by deed dated June 16, 1981 and recorded in Liber 6297 at Follo 494;

Thence leaving said outline of Liber 5007 at Polio 52 and running with said seventh course of Liber 5297 at Polio 494 and running reversely with the remainder of said twelth course of Liber 2655 at Folio 443;

29. North 79'54'49" West - 252.47' to a sandstone found at the end of said seventh course and the beginning of the eighth course of said Liber 6297 at Folio 494 and located at the end of the eleventh course of taid Liber 2635 at Polio 443;

Thence running with said eighth course of Liber 6297 at Folio 494 and reversely with a portion of said eleventh course Liber 2655 at Polio 443;

30. North 23'23'12" West - 1542.61' to an iron pipe found at the southeasternmost corner of Lot I as shown on the plat of the Merryman Property recorded in Plat Book 49 at Folio 34 and located on the northern right-of-way of Oedar Grove Road as shown on said plat;

Thence leaving said right-of-way and running with the remainder of said eighth course of Liber 6297 at Folio 494 and the outline of said Lot 1 - Merryman Property and reversely with a partian of said eleventh course of Liber 2635 at Follo 443:

31. North 23'24'37" West - 871.59' to a stone found at the southeasternmost corner of Lot 6 as shown on the plat of Arden Valley Section Two recorded in Plat Book 50 at Folio 5 and the northeasternmost corner of said Lot 1 - Merryman Property and at the end of said eighth course of Liber 6297 at Follo 494;

Thence leaving the outline of said Lot 2 - Merryman Property and the outline of said Liber 6297 at Folio 494 and running with the eastern outline of said Lot 6 - Arden Valley Section Two and reversely with the remainder of said eleventh course of Liber 2655 at Folio 443;

32. North 22*48'08" West - 558.73' to an iron rod found at the southwesternmost corner of Lot 15 of said Arden Valley Section Two and at the end of the tenth course of said Liber 2655 at Folio

Thence leaving the outline of said Lot 6 - Arden Valley Section Two and the outline of said Liber 2655 at Folio 443 and running with the southern outline of said Lot 15 - Arden Valley section Two;

33. North 71°04'18" East - 559.82' to an iron rod found at the southwesternmost corner of Lot 16 of said Arden Valley Section Two;

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BEAVIN COMPANY April 8, 1993

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Thence leaving the outline of said Lot 15 - Arden Valley Section Two and running with the southern outline of said Lot 16 - Arden Valley Section Two;

34. North 71°04'18" East - 631.48" to an iron rod set at the southeasternmost corner of said Lot 16 - Arden Valley Section Two at a point located 383.12' southeast of an iron pipe found at the northeasternmost corner of said Lot 16 - Arden Valley Section Two;

Theree leaving said outline of Lot 16 - Arden Valley Section Two and running with a line computed to return to the outline of said Liber 2655 at Polio 443;

35. North 10°27'59" West - 4.52" to an iron rod found at the end of the second course of the third part of Liber 232 at Polio 168 description called for in the conveyance to The Maynerd B. Harp Trust and The Retta B. Harp Trust by deed dated October 2, 1990 and recorded in Liber 8638 at Polio 533 located at the beginning of the tenth course of said Liber 2555 at Polio 443;

Thence running with the third and a portion of the fourth courses of said Liber 232 at Polio 168 and reversely with the ninth and eighth courses of said Liber 2655 at Polio 443;

36. South 58'28'18" East - 890.65' to an iron pipe found in a pile of flint stones and passing over an iron pipe found at a distance of 312.30' from the beginning of this course;

37. North 70'07'23" East - 440.35' to a concrete monument found at the end of the eighth course of said Liber 6331 at folio 105;

Thence leaving the outline of said Liber 2655 at Folio 443 and running with the remainder of the fourth course of said Liber 232 at Folio 168 and running reversely with said eighth course of Liber 6331 at Folio 105;

38. North 70°08'05' East - 575.51' to said right-of-way of Interstate 83 and passing over stone found at the end of said fourth course of Liber 232 at Folio 168 at a distance of 375.09' and passing over an iron pipe found at a distance of 178.93' from the aforementioned stone found;

Thence leaving the outline of said Liber 8638 at Folio 533 and running with said right-of-way of Interstate 83 reversely with the seventh through the first courses of said 6331 at Folio 105 the following seven courses and distances;

- 39. South 15"07'34" East 41.42';
- 40. South 34°40'37" East 324.14";
- 41. South 37°40'11" East 260.79';

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DEAVIN COMPANY April 8, 1993

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- 42. South 45'37'32' East 234.76';
- 43. South 71"33"28" Bast 55.96";
- 44. South 78°48'19" Best 62.99";
- 45. South 45'30'59" East 48.72' to the point of bejinning;

Containing 237,083 acres, more or less, as surveyed and described by Beavin Company, Engineers & Surveyors in March 1993.

Being all of the remaining portions of the conveyance from Herman Von Groning to Elise Oillet Boyce by deed dated February 15, 1955 and recorded among the Land Records of Baltimore County in Liber 2655 at Folio 443 and all of the remaining portions of the conveyance from The Vestry of Immanuel Parish, Baltimore County to Elise Gillet Boyce by deed dated August 1, 1968 Vestry of Immanuel Parish, Baltimore County to Elise Gillet Boyce by deed dated August 1, 1968 and recorded among said Land Records in Liber 4904 at Folio 703 and all of the remaining portions of the conveyance from Taras 1. Charchafis and Tatjana N. Charchafis, his wife, by deed dated September 22, 1981 and recorded in Liber 6331 at Folio 105.



THE VALLEYS PLANNING COUNCIL, INC.

212 Washington Avenue P.O. Box 5402 Towson, Maryland 21285-5402 410-337-6877 410-296-5409 (FAX)

April 26, 1995



Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County Room 112 Old Court House Towson, MD 21204

RE: 900 Bacon Hall Rd, Case #95-351-A (Item 342)

Dear Sir:

The Valleys Planning Council wishes to register its strong opposition to the requested height variance in this case. <u>Cromwell v. Ward</u> stated, re height variances:

"The variance process. . . is at least a two step process. The first step requires a finding that the property whereon structures are to be placed. . .is - in and of itself - unique and unusual in a manner different from the nature of surrounding properties. . . Unless there is a finding that the property is unique, unusual, or different, the process stops here and the variance is denied. . ."

There is clearly nothing unique or unusual about the subject property; on the contrary, a glance at the tax map and at contour maps shows that it is a farm highly typical of the area both in size and in topography. This is corroborated by our own long experience with the property.

Further, we would point out that the farm lies in a National Register Historic District and that the proposed structure would form an unwelcome visual intrusion into that District.

Many thanks for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

John Bernstein

Executive Director

cc: ZADM

THE VALLEYS PLANNING COUNCIL, INC.

212 Washington Avenue P.O. Box 5402 Towson, Maryland 21285-5402 410-337-6877 410-296-5409 (FAX)

July 11, 1995

Arnold Jablon, Director ZADM
111 W. Chesapeake Ave.
Towson, MD 21204

Re: Petition for Variance N/S Bacon Hall Rd, 1400' E of the c/l of Gillett Rd. (900 Bacon Hall Road) 7th Election District - 3rd Councilmanic District Case #95-351-A

Dear Mr. Jablon:

Please enter an appeal of the Valleys Planning Council, Inc., 212 Washington Ave., Towson, MD 21204; and Richard B. Buck, 11219 Greenspring Avenue, Lutherville, MD 21093 to the County Board of Appeals from the order dated June 12, 1995 of the Baltimore County Deputy Zoning Commissioner in the above case. Enclosed is our check for the filing fee.

Please forward to the Valleys Planning Council copies of any papers pertinent to this appeal as appropriate.

Very truly yours,

John Bernstein
Executive Director

cc: Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Duckett P.O. Box 178 Phoenix, MD 21131

> Mr. Tim Sanders 108 W. Timonium Road Timonium, MD 21093



PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

PROTESTANT(S) SIGN-IN SHEET

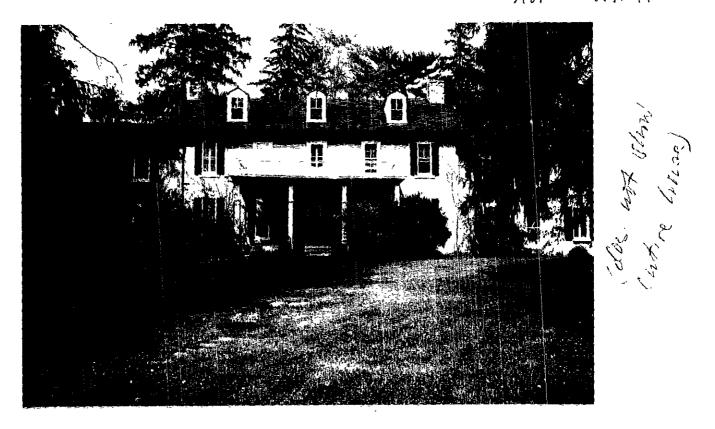
NAME	ADDRESS
Kristen Forsyth	The Valleys Planning Council
,	P.O. BOX 5402, Towson, MD 21285
TPM MULLAN	P.O. BOX 5402, TOWSON, MD 21285 1620 Colef Battle CD.

PETITIONER(S) SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME	ADDRESS
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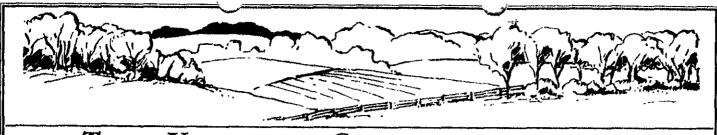


(pc#2) ABP. EXH. # Z



FRONTAL VIEW OF BACON HALL MANOR HOUSE





THE VALLEYS CONSERVATIONIST

THE VALLEYS PLANNING COUNCIL, INC. SPECIAL EDITION, AUTUMN 1994

A Message to The Valleys from Tom Horton . . .

Just as our physical well-being is tied to the world in which we work and play and love, so is the state of the Chesapeake Bay intimately connected to a system extending from the ocean to lands drained by its tributary rivers as far away as New York and West Virginia, lands populated by some 15 million people. Its health is equally inseparable from the quality of the air above it and the great, invisible seepages of groundwater from beneath it. What the growing human population does to transform the land and puts in the air is as important as what it discharges directly into the water.

Imagine it this way: every last acre of forest remaining in Baltimore County, parks, nature centers and all, changed to housing. Or virtually every farm vanished, sown permanently in bedrooms for commuters.

Such scenarios represent the vast open space consumed in today's suburban sprawl by the 200,000 people who once fit into about one-quarter of Baltimore City.

SAVE THE VALLEYS

by Margaret Worrall, Executive Director

After many years of working with and for the Valleys. Planning Commoll, I believe more firmly than ever that the most compelling action we can take to protect the valleys is to place our own land in permanent preservation.

Zoning laws change, political factions come and go; development pressures mount from all sides.

Yet country people have always been flercely independent, and self-reliance is what can save the valleys Real preservation will come not through government regulations, tax advantages, transfer and/or purchase of development rights; or successful estate planning as important as these incentives may be.

"Lullimately, saving the valleys — if they are to be saved — will be accomplished because individual landowners feel suongly enough about the ideal and ethic of the land that they place their own holdings in protective easements.

Land is the only thing in the world that amounts to anything for its the only thing in this world that lasts." — Gone With the Wind Sprawl development is shown by study after study to raise taxes, waste energy, and increase pollution. Environmentally, economically, and aesthetically, it is a loser.

When we ride or hike through the lands of the bay region, we still see a great deal of farm and forest. But if we could overlay these in our minds with the subdivision and freewheeling zoning already in place on much of that land, we would be sobered by this new vision of how it will soon look.

And if we were able to envision another overlay—the prevailing attitudes toward private property rights versus the common good—the future of the landscape would look even more bleak. Land use and development in the bay's watershed are overwhelmingly and fundamentally shortsighted and destructive—economically, environmentally, and culturally. We continue to use open space and unique partisof our natural heritage with the same wastefulness we have historically shown for other nonrenewable resources like coal and oil.

However much we may love and enjoy the water, it is on the lands of the watershed that we live most of our lives. If we cannot preserve extensive natural green spaces, if our transportation systems are congested and our air is not fit to breathe, then all the rockfish and canvasback ducks in the world will not make this the "Land of Pleasant Living."

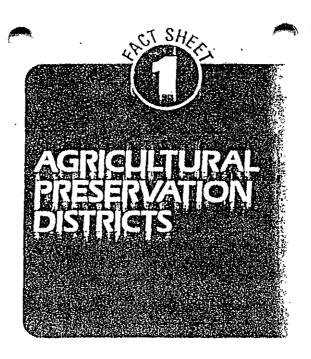
Land use is tied closely to environmental quality in a number of ways. More water and air pollution results from converting open space to other uses. The character of the landscape and regional cultures are destroyed by sprawl development, as well as industries such as agriculture and forestry.

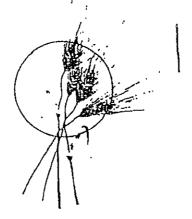
Your <u>Plan for the Valleys</u> is based on planner Ian McHarg's visionary concept that "the natural land form has an inherent sense of order."

In the areas where developers would most naturally have developed — the broad, open valley floors — no development would be allowed. On the forested slopes that wall the valleys only very restricted development would occur. In these elements reside what Mr. McHarg called the "genius of the landscape," and they must be kept intact.

The real genius of the <u>Plan for the Valleys</u> is ultimately something less definable than identification of growth and non-growth areas. It is recognition that absolute freedom of choice for each property owner to dispose of owned land results inevitably in destroying options for society as a whole.

(continued on Page 6





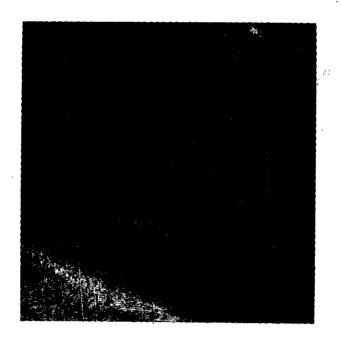


Maryland Agricultural Land Preservation Foundation

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURY



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THOMAS F. MULLAN, III 1620 COLD BOTTOM ROAD SPARKS, MARYLAND 21152

PAR!

July 6, 1995

Dr. Melvin Duckett P. O. Box 178 Phoenix, Maryland 21131

Dear Mel:

Enclosed please find some propaganda from Baltimore County concerning the easement program about which we spoke. I am also enclosing a publication from the Valleys Planning Counsel which includes an article on page 3 that outlines Doug Worrall's approach to this situation. He may be of some use to you in the future. Further enclosed, please find an old appraisal that I used when I put my land into the program. The whole transaction is slightly confusing, however, the rewards, in my opinion, are tremendous.

I would think that you land would bring a minimum of \$4,000 per acre tax free. As you may be aware, all of the lands of Mr. Ensor, Spaulding Goetze, and a portion of Mrs. Merryman's are already in the program. I am under the impression that Mrs. Merryman is going to put the remainder of her land in, in the near future. Messrs. Carl and Robert Nash, who are your neighbors on Cedar Grove Road, have put all of their land in, as has Mr. Ensor with his holdings on Cedar Grove Road.

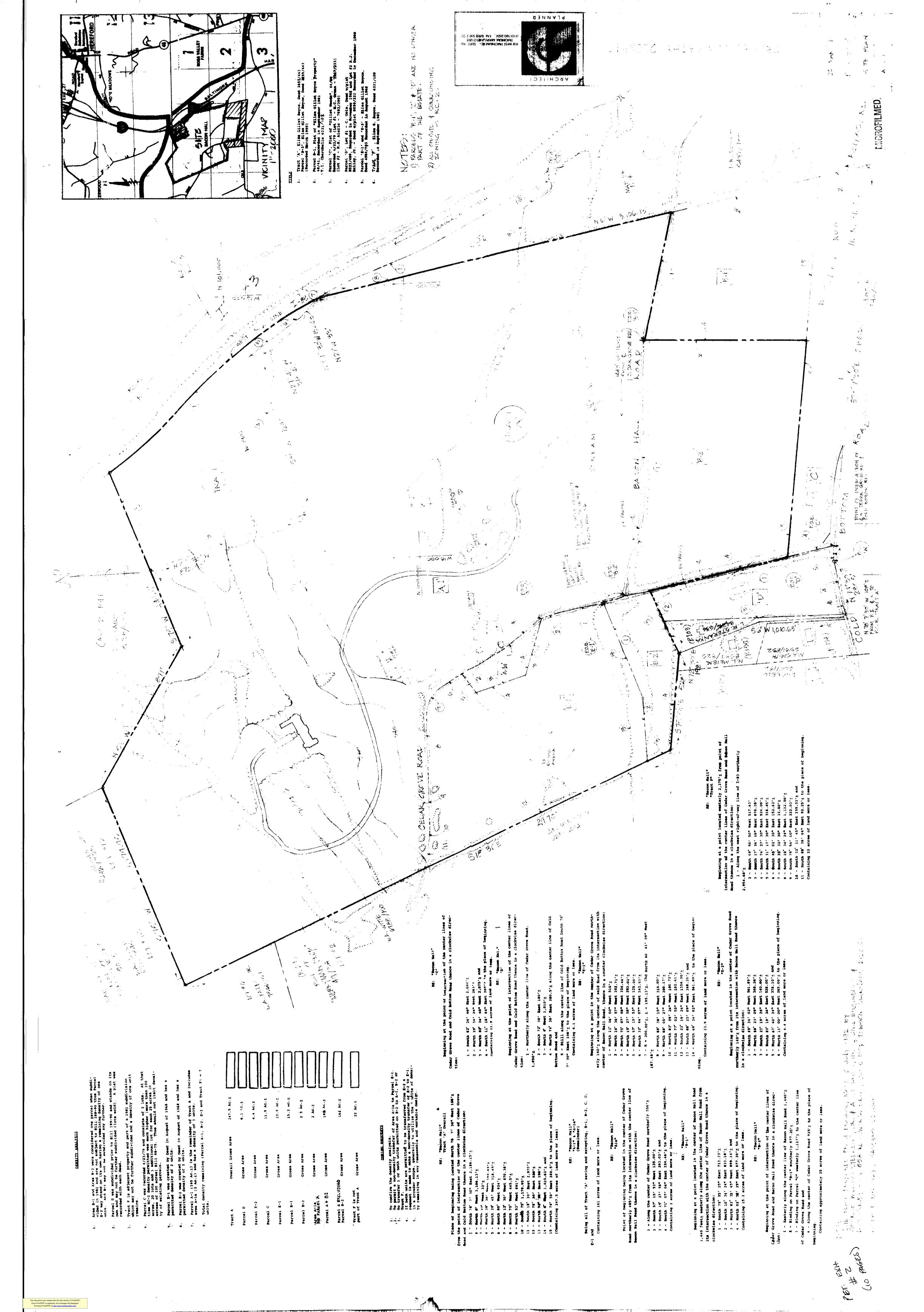
If I can be of further assistance on this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me. My work number is 494-9200 and my home number is 771-4460.

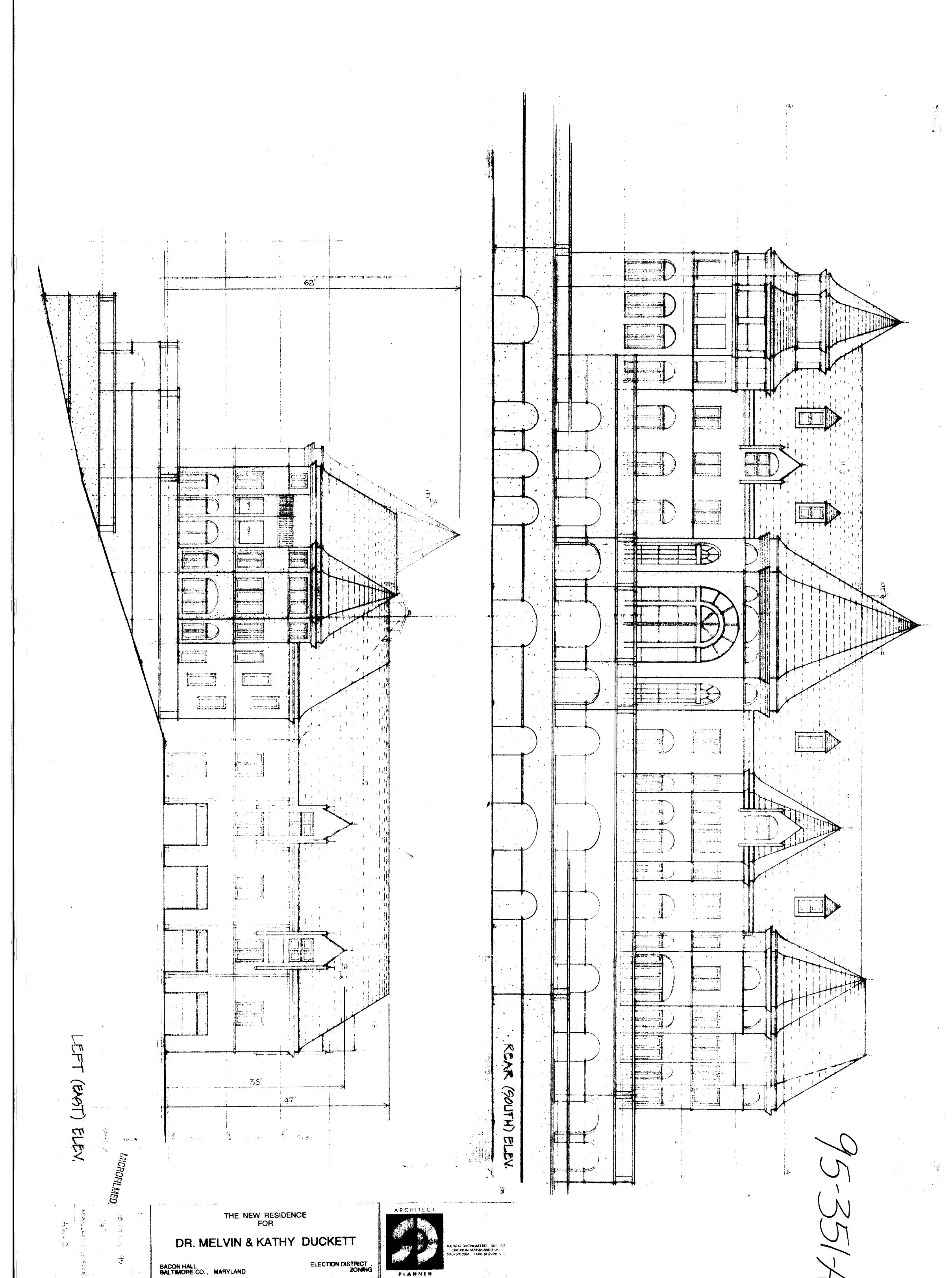
wife in y very truly yours, Best of luck to you and your wife in your new home, and welcome to the neighborh pad.

Thomas F. Mullan, III

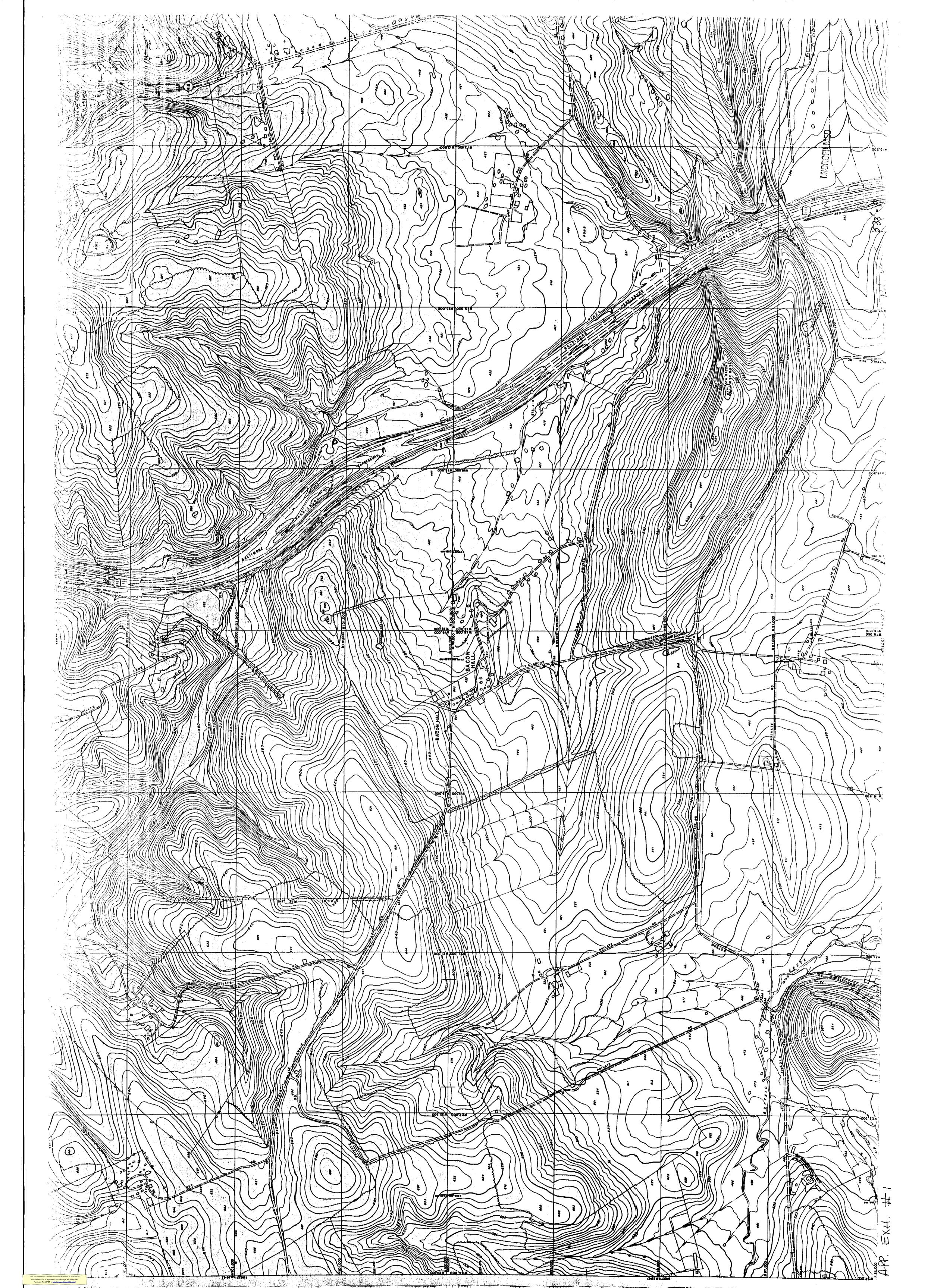
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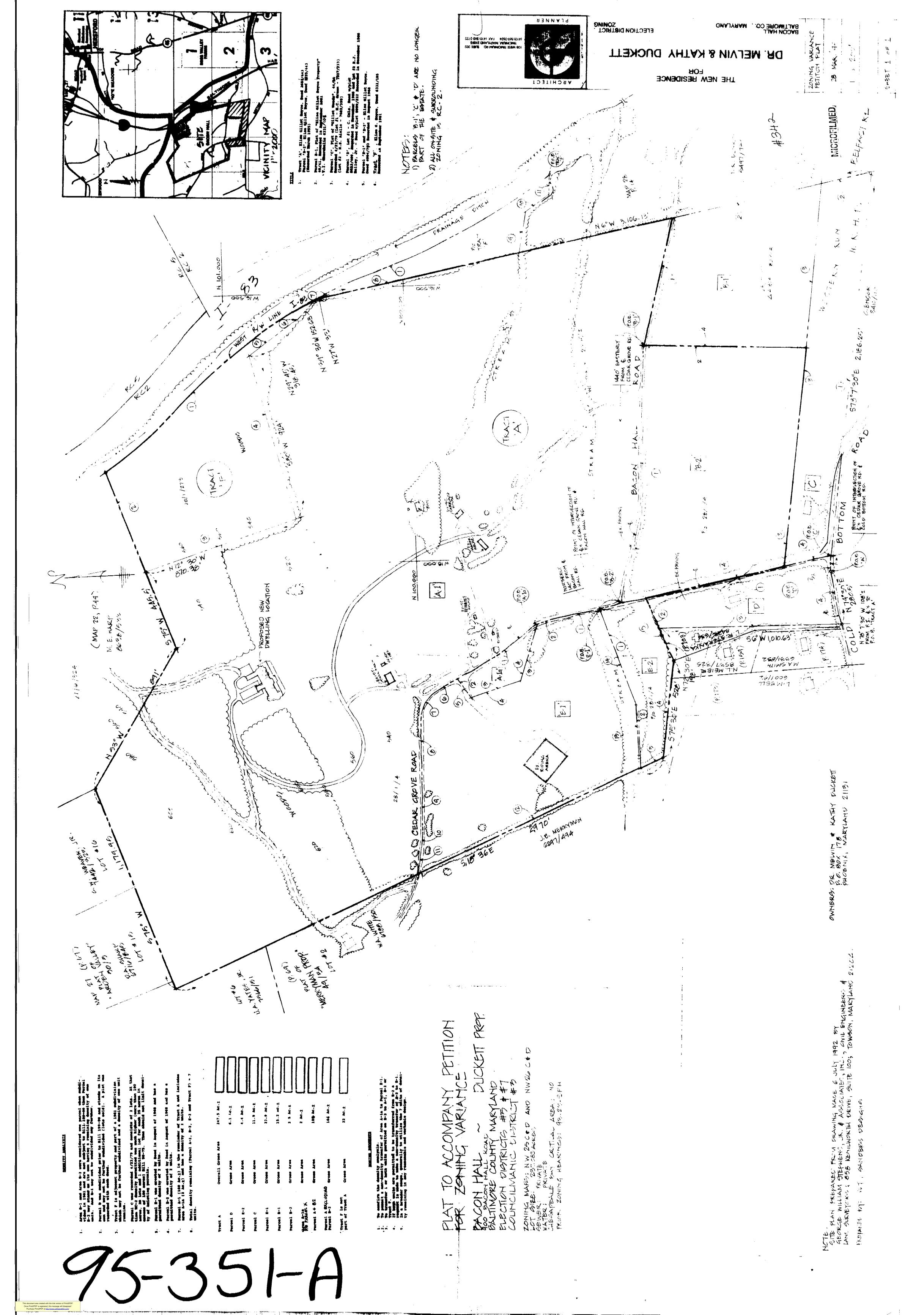
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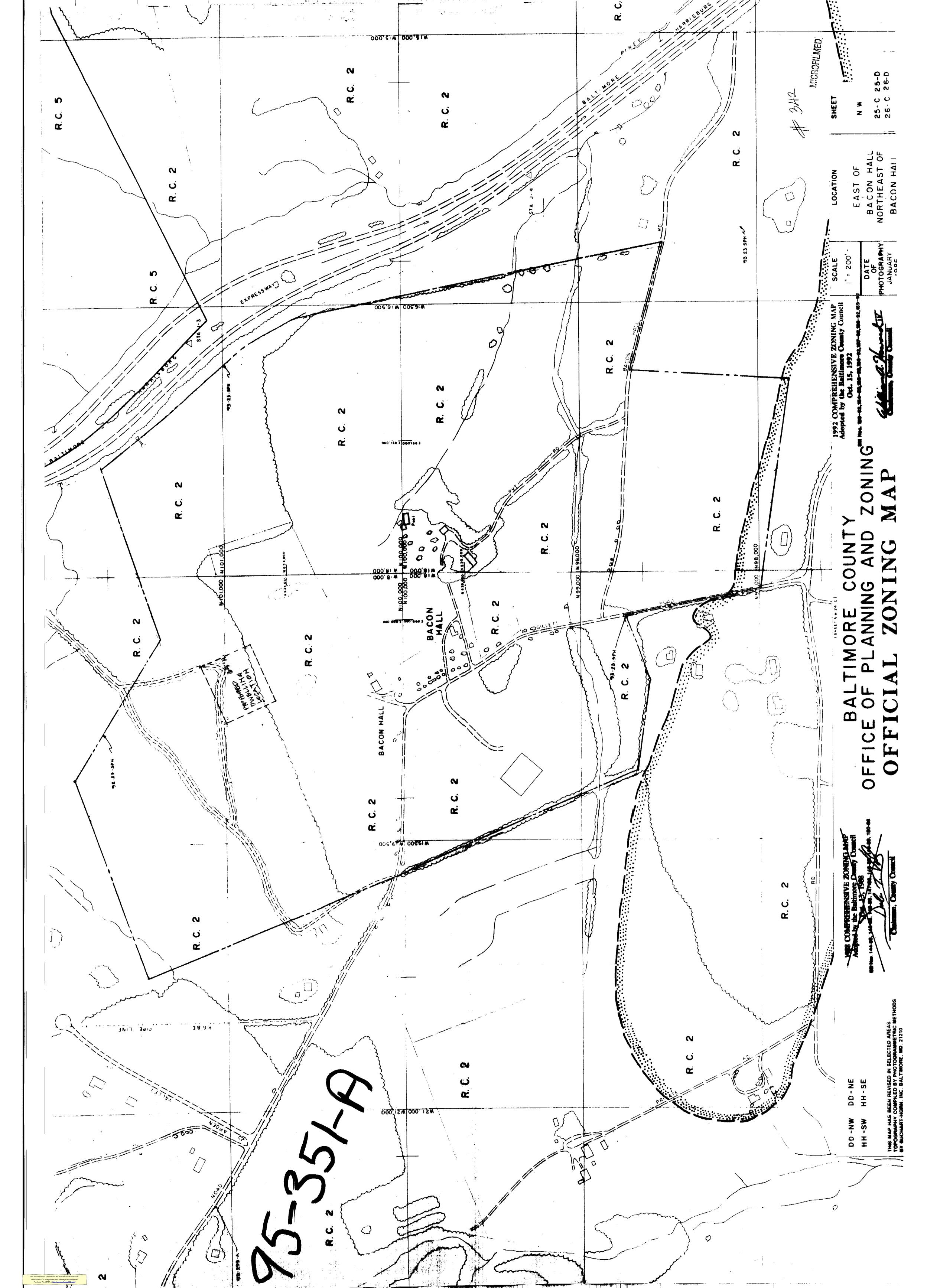


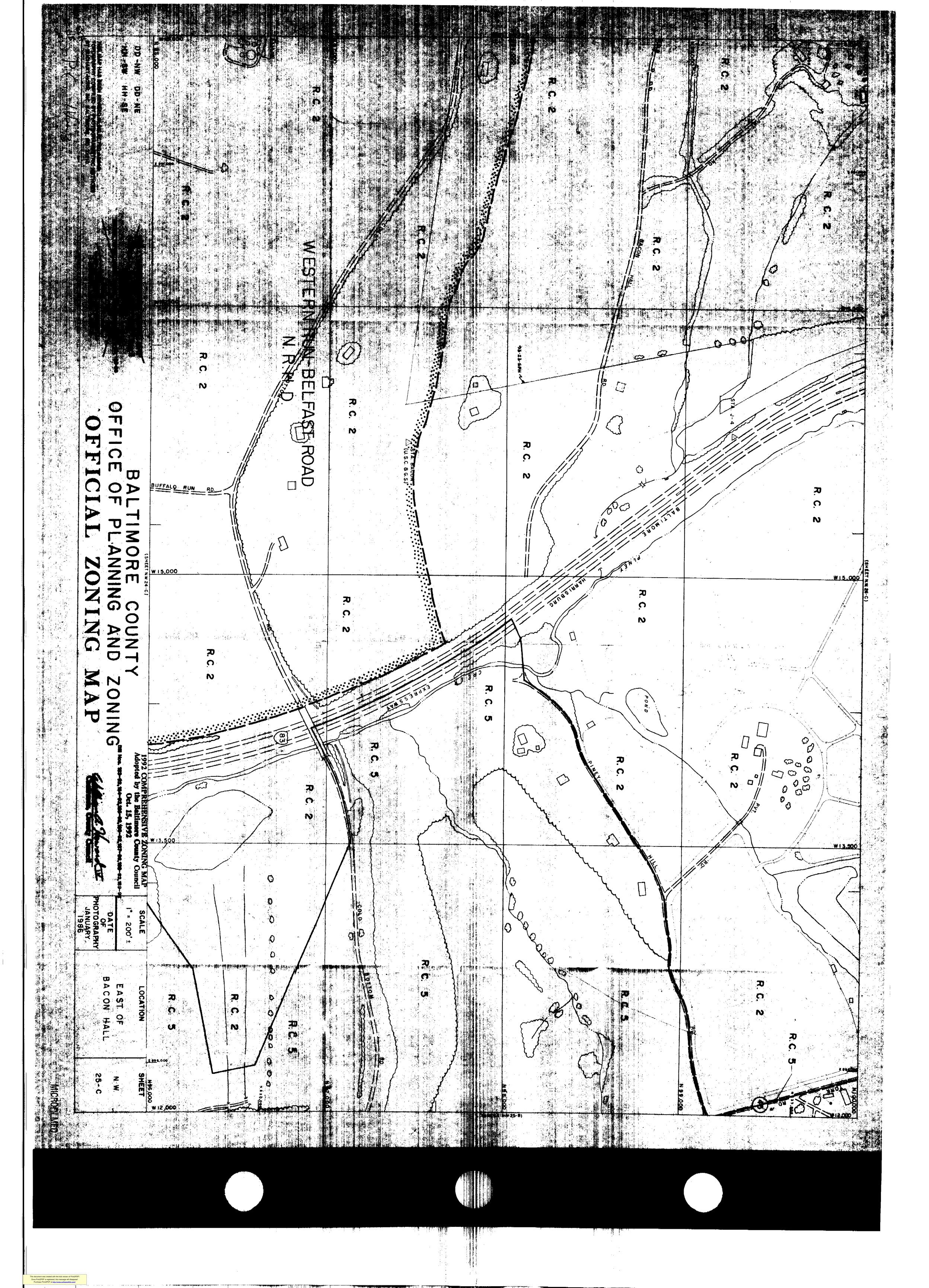


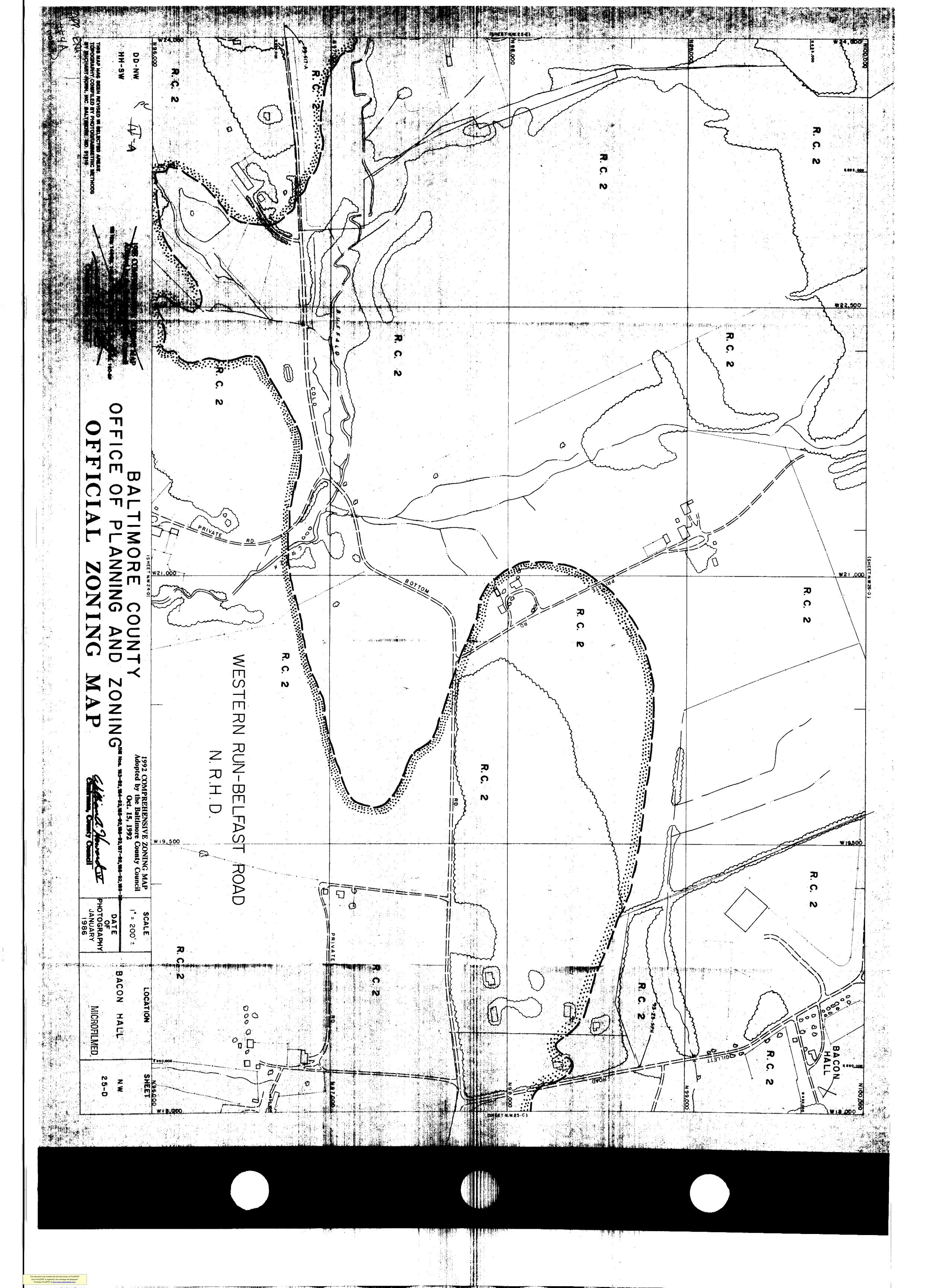
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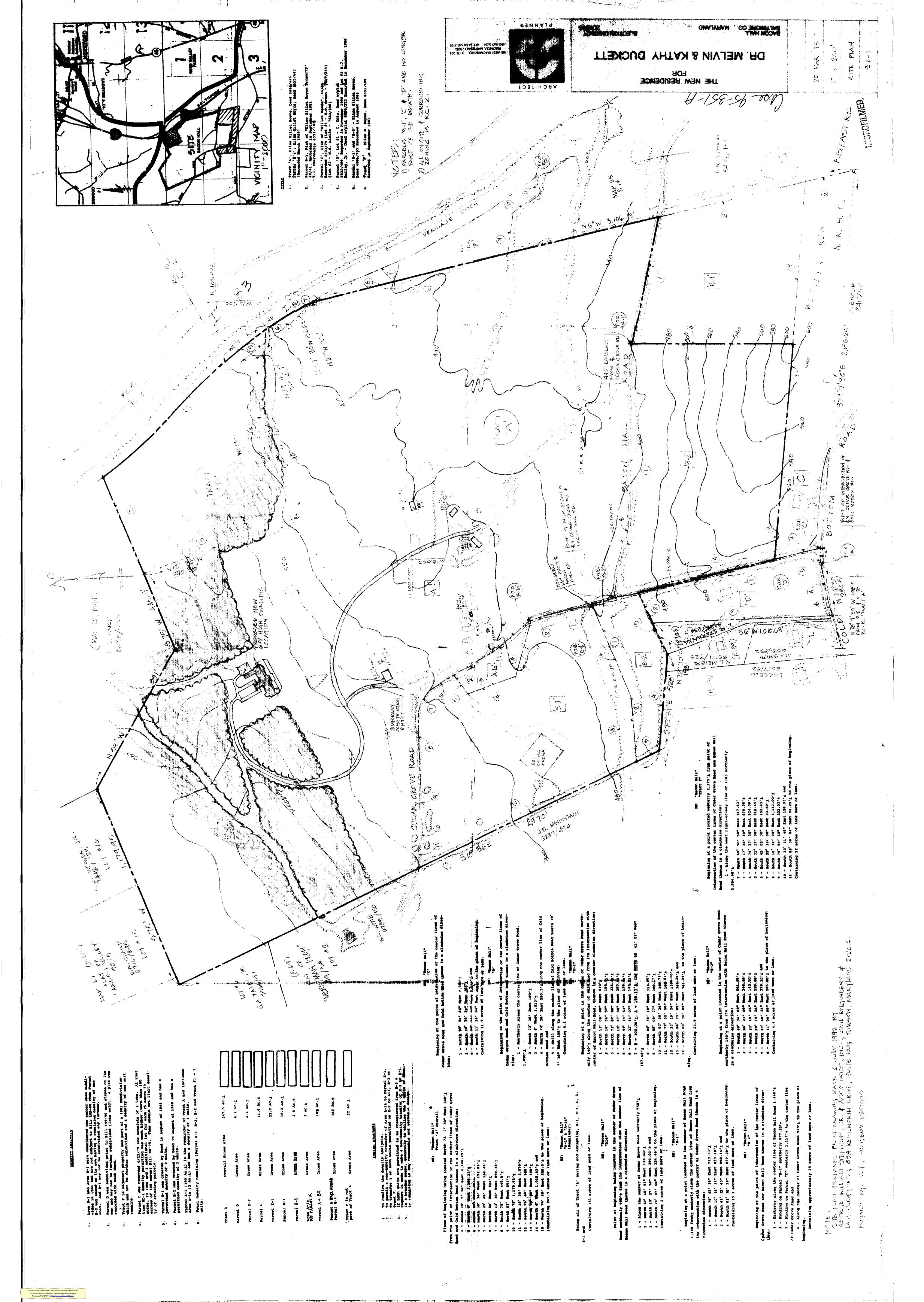


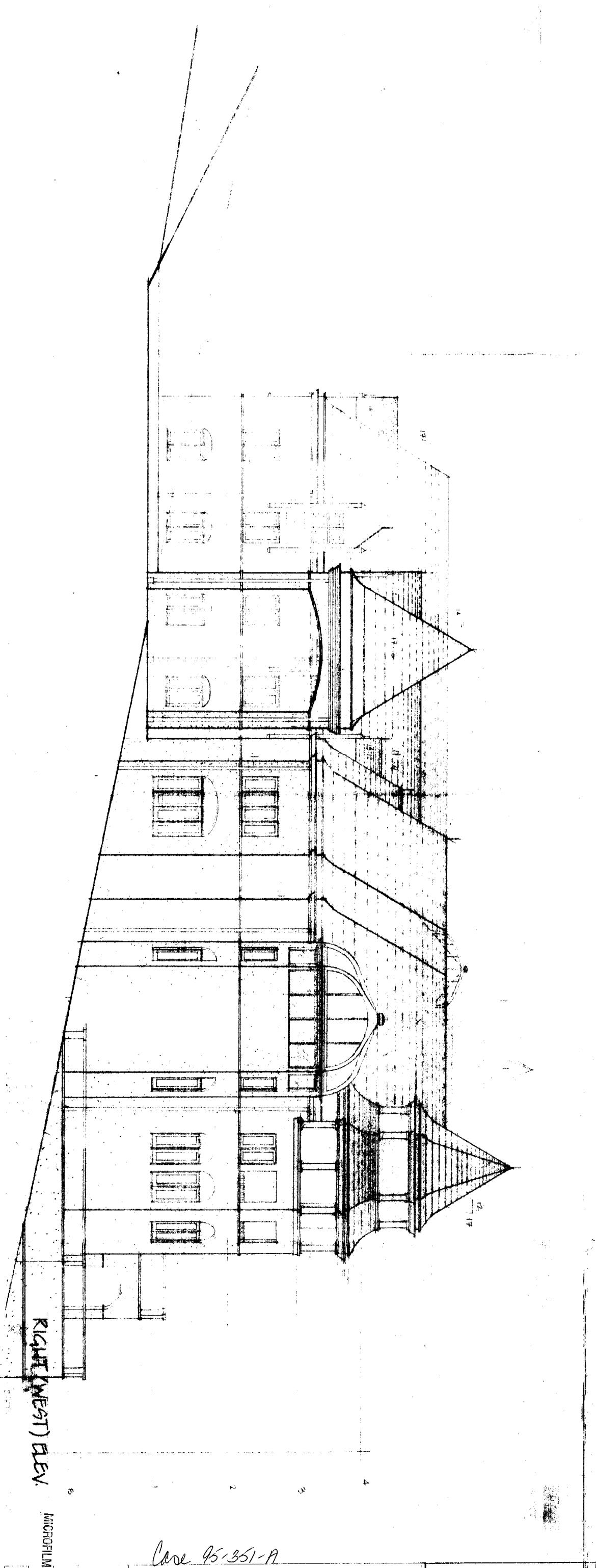


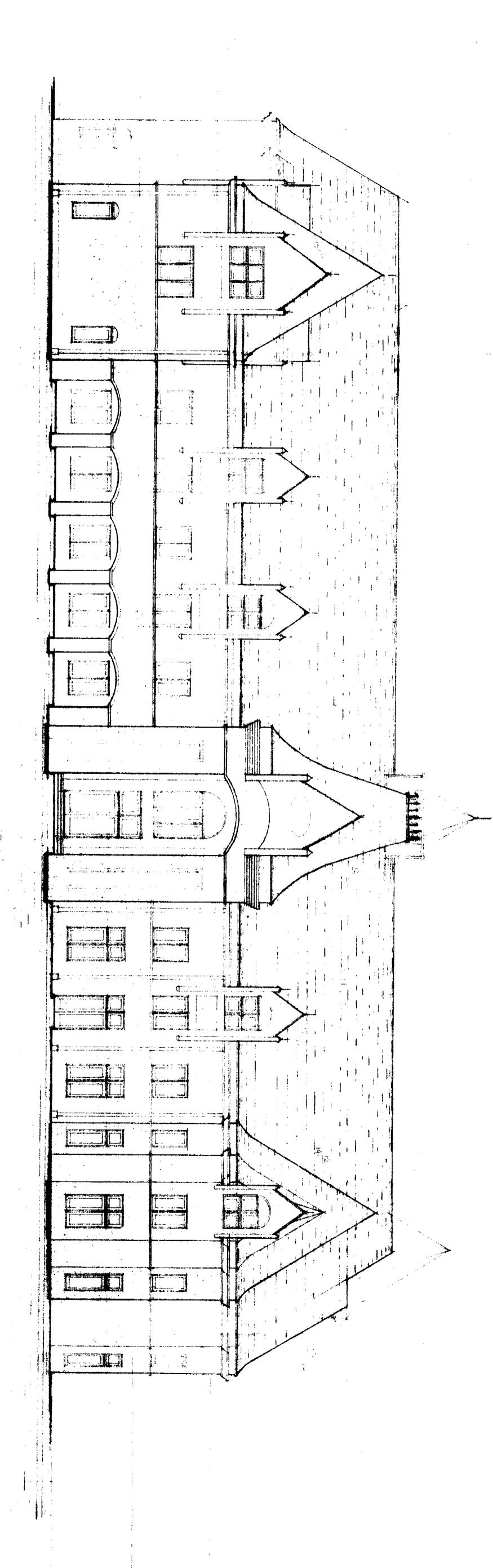
OFFICE OF PLANNING AND ZONING PHOTOGRAPHIC MAP

PREPARED BY AIR PHOTO(MARTINSBURG, W.V. 25401









THE NEW RESIDENCE FOR

DR. MELVIN & KATHY DUCKETT

BACON HALL BALTIMORE CO., MARYLAND

ELECTION DISTRICT .. ZONING



IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF

7TH ELECTION DISTRICT

witnesses.

3RD COUNCILMANIC DISTRICT

* BEPORE THE

MELVIN DUCKETT, ET UX FOR VARIANCE ON PROPERTY LOCATED ON THE NORTH SIDE BACON HALL ROAD, * 1400' E OF THE C/L OF GILLETT ROAD (900 BACON HALL ROAD)

* COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS

BALTIMORE COUNTY * CASE NO: 95-351-A

OPINION

This case comes before the County Board of Appeals based on an appeal from the Deputy Zoning Commissioner's Order of June 12, 1995, in which the Petition for Variance was granted with restrictions.

Mr. John Bernstein, Executive Director of the Valleys Planning

Council appeared on behalf of the Appellants; pursuant to Rule No. 8 of the Board's Rules, a certified copy of the Authorizing Resolution was presented to the Board prior to the hearing. Carole S. Demilio, Deputy People's Counsel, conducted the Appellant's case at the hearing, and presented the opening and closing legal arguments. People's Counsel is authorized to appear and participate in zoning matters before this Board despite not appearing below (Baltimore County Charter Section 524.1). Dr. Melvin Duckett, Petitioner, appeared pro se and without expert

Dr. Duckett testified concerning the variance request. The Petitioner was seeking relief from Section 1A01.3.A. of the BCZR to permit a dwelling height of 65 ft. in lieu of the required 35 ft. permit by law. The Petitioner indicated that when calculating the height of the proposed dwelling, the measurement was taken from one

residence. The Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (BCZR), specifically Section 300.1A exempts cupolas when calculating height; therefore, the petitioner should have measured the proposed dwelling from the peak of the roof and not necessarily from the top of the cupola. Upon recalculating the height of the house from the peak of the roof the house will stand 47 ft. above grade and that a variance of 47 ft. in lieu of the requested 65 ft. was actually needed. The subject property and relief sought are more fully described in Petitioner's Exhibit No. 2, consisting of ten pages, which outlines a description of the proposed dwelling and site. Dr. Duckett testified that he has owned the subject property for 2 1/2 years. He indicated a desire to create a home consisting of approximately 20,000 sq. ft. as a single family dwelling. The property itself consists of 237 acres, more or less, and is presently zoned R.C. 2. It is located in the Sparks area of Baltimore County on the west side of I-83 and is dissected by Bacon Hall Road and Cedar Grove Road. The property is currently improved with several tenant buildings and outbuildings which were formerly a part of a farm operation. The Petitioner indicated that he wished to engage the entire area as an estate property. He testified that his proposed plans would enhance the area as an estate property with the proposed house as the main residence along with associated tenant houses. Dr. Duckett stated that in his opinion there were already other structures in the area served by

Case No. 95-351-A, Melvin Duckett, et ux

of the cupolas which had been incorporated into the design of this

Valleys Planning Council ("VPC") area that exceeded the height restrictions and in addition to the aesthetic values which would be enhanced by the requested variance, his financing for the project could not be approved by the lending institution if the variance was not granted. Dr. Duckett's testimony constituted his entire case in chief.

Case No. 95-351-A, Melvin Duckett, et ux

Mr. John Bernstein, Executive Director of the VPC, testified before the Board. He stated that the VPC was opposed to the granting of the variance for several reasons. His salient points in opposition were that the granting of the variance by the Deputy Zoning Commissioner failed to meet the standards imposed by Cromwell v. Ward, 102 MD, App. 691 (1995) as to the uniqueness or unusual nature of the subject property that renders it in any manner different than that of surrounding properties and further that the farm was situated in a national registered historic district and that the proposed dwelling would constitute an unwarranted visual intrusion into that district. Deputy People's Counsel also submitted exhibits 1, 2, 3 and 4 outlining Baltimore County maps of the area in question, along with aerial photos and zoning maps for Baltimore County in the location of the Bacon Hall

Public deliberation by the Board took place on March 7, 1996. Section 307.1 sets forth the requirements for the granting of a variance. Such variance can only be granted in situations where special circumstances or conditions exist peculiar to the land or

Case No. 95-351-A, Melvin Duckett, et ux

structure which is the subject of the variance request and where strict compliance with the zoning regulations would result in practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship. Additionally if the variance is granted it must be in strict harmony with the spirit and intent of the height and area regulations; and, only without injury to the health, safety and general welfare, otherwise there is no power to grant a variance.

The property in question consists of 237 +/- acres. The entire Valley area contains parcels of greater and some lesser land area with some lot consisting of over 300 acres. Testimony indicated that such acreage was quite typical of the entire Valley so that there was nothing either unique or unusual as to the land mass. The average structure height of other dwellings appeared to be 20-25 ft. There did not appear to be any other dwellings offered in evidence that exceeded height restrictions. Those restrictions presently imposed on the Petitioner's property did not apply solely to Dr. Duckett's property, but all properties in the

Having heard testimony, examining all exhibits and reviewing the statutory and case law, the Board concluded that the Petitioner had not demonstrated that the property suffered from any unusual constraints or was singularly disadvantaged compared to other properties in the area and further that if any hardship was imposed it was not imposed by the subject site but by the building plans themselves. For these reasons, the variance

Case No. 95-351-A, Melvin Duckett, et ux request must be denied.

ORDER

IT IS THEREFORE, this ___ 30th ___ day of ___ April ____, 1996 by the County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County,

ORDERED that the Petition for Variance to permit a dwelling height of 47 feet in lieu of the maximum permitted 35 feet be and is hereby DENIED.

Any petition for judicial review from this decision must be made in accordance with Rule 7-201 through Rule 7-210 of the Maryland Rules of Procedure.

> COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

Robert O. Schuetz, Chairma

Harry E./Buchheister, Jr.

County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

OLD COURTHOUSE, ROOM 49 **400 WASHINGTON AVENUE** TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 (410) 887-3180

April 30, 1996

Mr. John Bernstein Executive Director The Valleys Planning Council, Inc. P.O. Box 5402 Towson, MD 21204-5402

> RE: Case No. 95-351-A Melvin Duckett, et ux

Dear Mr. Bernstein:

Enclosed please find a copy of the final Opinion and Order issued this date by the County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County in the subject matter.

Any petition for judicial review from this decision must be made in accordance with Rule 7-201 through Rule 7-210 of the Maryland Rules and Procedure. If no such petition is filed within 30 days from the date of the enclosed Order, the subject file will be closed.

Very truly yours,

Charlotte E. Radcliffe Legal Secretary

Enclosure

cc: Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Duckett Mr. Tim Sanders Sanders Designs Mr. Tim Mullin People's Counsel for Baltimore County Pat Keller Timothy M. Kotroco W. Carl Richards, Jr. /PDM Docket Clerk /PDM Arnold Jablon, Director /PDM Virginia W. Barnhart, County Attorney PETITION FOR VARIANCE (900 Bacon Hall Road) 7th Election District

N/S Bacon Hall Road, 1400' E of the c/l of Gillett Road

3rd Councilmanic District

Melvin Duckett, et ux Petitioners

* DEPUTY ZONING COMMISSIONER * OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

* Case No. 95-351-A

* * * * * * * * * *

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

This matter comes before the Deputy Zoning Commissioner as a Petition for Variance for that property known as 900 Bacon Hall Road, located in the vicinity of Sparks, adjacent to Interstate 83. The Petition was filed by the owners of the property, Dr. Melvin Duckett, and his wife, Kathy Duckett. The Petition, as filed, seeks relief from Section 1A01.3.A of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit a dwelling height of 65 feet in lieu of the maximum permitted 35 feet. The subject property and relief sought are more particularly described on the site plan submitted and marked into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibit 1.

Appearing at the hearing on behalf of the Petition were Dr. Melvin Duckett, property owner, and Timothy Sanders, Architect. Appearing in opposition to the relief requested were Tim Mullan, a nearby resident of the area, and Kristen Forsyth, who appeared on behalf of the Valleys Planning Council.

At the onset of the hearing, it was determined that the Petitioners had requested a greater variance than was necessary. Discussions with the Petitioner revealed that when calculating the height of the proposed dwelling, the measurement was taken from one of the cupolas which have been incorporated into the design of this residence. The B.C.Z.R., specifically Section 300.1A, exempts cupolas when calculating for height. Therefore,

the Petitioner should have measured the proposed dwelling from the peak of the roof and not necessarily from the top of the cupola. Upon recalculating the height of the house from the peak of the roof, it was determined that the house will stand 47 feet above-grade and that a variance of 47 feet in lieu of the requested 65 feet was needed. On behalf of the Petitioner, Mr. Sanders testified that the Petitioner chose the highest point of the dwelling from which to measure so that there would be no misunderstanding at the hearing as to the extent of the size of the proposed dwelling. Dr. Duckett did not want anyone to be misled by taking the height measurement of the proposed dwelling from anywhere other than its highest point. The Petition was amended accordingly and the hearing proceeded on the merits of the amended request.

Testimony and evidence offered revealed that the subject property consists of 237.083 acres, more or less, zoned R.C. 2. The property is located in Sparks on the west side of Interstate 83 and is dissected by Bacon Hall Road and Cedar Grove Road. The property is presently improved with several tenant dwellings and outbuildings which were previously part of a farm operation. Dr. Duckett testified that he has owned the property for the past 2 and 1/2 years. The Petitioners wish to create an estate for their family and propose to construct a 20,000 sq.ft. single family residence on the property at this time. Dr. Duckett proposes to locate this rather large dwelling within the tree line that exists on the property, as shown on Petitioner's Exhibit 1, to provide some buffering to the visual effect of the house itself. Dr. Duckett testified that he intends to utilize the entire parcel, including the proposed residence, as an estate property. Dr. Duckett testified that it was his understanding that this parcel of land was once considered for development as a golf course.

- 2-

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AYP. EXH.

PHOTOGRAPHIC MAP



He believes that the property would be best preserved as an estate with a main residence and associated tenant houses.

Appearing as a Protestant in this matter was Kristen Forsyth who voiced opposition on behalf of the Valleys Planning Council (VPC). Ms. Forsyth presented a letter from the VPC dated April 26, 1995 in which they voiced strong opposition to the height variance requested for the proposed dwelling. The VPC does not believe that the Petitioner meets the requirements imposed upon them for the granting of this variance. They further state in their letter that the proposed dwelling would form an "unwelcome visual intrusion" on this property, which is located within the National Register Historic District.

On cross-examination, Ms. Forsyth was asked by Dr. Dickett whether the VPC had reviewed the elevation drawings for the proposed swelling prior to taking the position indicated in their letter. Ms. Forsyth testified that the VPC had not had an opportunity to review the elevation drawings, but, as a matter of principle, were opposed to any single family dwelling being built at the height proposed.

It was surprising to see the opposition by the Valleys Flanning Council to the proposed use of this land by Dr. Duckett as his personal residence and as an estate for his family. It would appear to be a wonderful opportunity for this 237 acre parcel to be used for residential purposes. Only one main single family dwelling is proposed, with existing tenant houses. This main dwelling will be tucked into the tree line that exists on the property, which should provide a substantial buffer to this structure. Furthermore, Dr. Duckett has taken great care and give to great lengths to design a rather magnificent structure to be built upon this property. Once constructed, this mansion would certainly be a showpiece in this area of Baltimore County, while at the same time, occupying and utilizing the entire parcel of land for residential purposes.

Given the fact that the subject property was once considered for use as a golf course, it would seem logical that the utilization of this property as an estate would be preferable to all those concerned with the preservation of this area of Baltimore County. I also question why the Valleys Planning Council would take a strong position of opposition to this residence without first reviewing the elevation drawings for the proposed structure.

Also attending the hearing and offering testimony in opposition to the Petitioners' request was Tim Mullan, who resides in this area of Baltimore County, but not adjacent to the subject property. Mr. Mullan is also concerned over the size of the proposed residence, but did note, however, that the house in which he presently resides probably exceeds the 35-foot height restriction. In fact, all those in attendance at the hearing before this Deputy Zoning Commissioner acknowledged that many of the houses in this area of Baltimore County, and particularly, the larger custom built homes, exceed the height restrictions imposed by the B.C.Z.R.

The B.C.Z.R., specifically Section 307.1, established a two-step process for the granting of variances. That two-step process was addressed and identified by the Court of Special Appeals in the case of Cromwell v. Ward, 102 Md. App. 691 (1995). The opinion in that case, issued January 4, 1995 and authored by the Honorable J. Cathell, interpreted our regulations to require the applicant to establish the following:

First, the Applicant (Petitioner) must prove, and this Deputy Zoning Commissioner must find, that the "property whereon structures are to be placed (or uses conducted) is -- in and of itself-- unique and unusu-

al in a manner different from the nature of surrounding properties such that the uniqueness and peculiarity of the subject property causes the zoning provision to impact disproportionately upon that property."

I find from the testimony and evidence presented in this case that the subject property is unique, unusual and different from properties which surround the subject site so as to cause this applicable zoning provision to impact disproportionately upon this particular parcel of land.

Having satisfied this "first step" the Applicant (Petitioner) must proceed to the "second step" of this variance process, which is to show that strict compliance with the zoning regulations for Baltimore County would result in practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship.

The practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship guidelines that have been imposed by the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) have been thoroughly examined and discussed by the appellate courts of this State. In Loyola Federal Savings and Loan Association v. Buschman 227 Md. 243, 176 A.2d 355 (1961), the Court of Appeals considered the identical regulation to Section 307.1 of the B.C.Z.R.

As the Court noted: "Section 307 of the Regulations uses the two terms (practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship) in the disjunctive." Loyola Federal, p. 358. Thus, by the use of the term "or", Section 307 offers the Petitioner an opportunity to obtain its variance upon satisfaction of either the undue hardship or practical difficulty standard.

The distinction between these standards was clarified by the Court of Special Appeals in Anderson v. Board of Appeals, Town of Chesapeake Beach, 22 Md. App. 28, 322 A.2d 220 (1974). Within that opinion, the Court held that the undue hardship standard applies to a petition for a use variance. The Court noted that a use variance, which permits a use on the property other than that specifically permitted in that particular district, requires the imposition of a higher standard. That is, to allow the change of use for a particular property requires the Petitioner to demonstrate real hardship, where the land cannot allow a reasonable return if used only in accordance with the use restrictions of the ordinance.

Compared with this heavy burden, the Court reviewed the practical difficulty standard applicable for area variances. The Court characterized area variances as having a much less drastic effect than use variances, in that they seek relief only from height, area, setback, or side property line restrictions and would not affect the property's use, per se. The Court envisioned the impact of area variances on the surrounding locale to be less than that generated by use variances, and thus, the lesser practical difficulty standard applies. The prongs of that standard which must be satisfied by the Petition, as enunciated in Anderson, supra, are as follows:

> 1) whether compliance with the strict letter of restrictions governing area, setbacks, frontage, height, bulk or density would unreasonably prevent the owner from using the property for a permitted purpose or would render conformity with such restrictions unnecessarily burdensome;

2) whether a grant of the variance applied for would do substantial injustice to applicant as well as to other property owners in the district or whether a lesser relaxation than that applied for would give substantial relief to the owner of the property involved and be more consistent with justice to other property owners; and

3) whether relief can be granted in such fashion that the spirit of the ordinance will be observed and public safety and welfare secured.

- 5-

Anderson, p. 39. See also McLean v. Soley, 270 Md. 208 (1973) at pps. Jan. 77 214-215.

2) The relief granted herein is limited to a single family residence in accordance with the site plan submitted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibit 1. The Petitioners shall not allow or cause the proposed structure to be converted for commercial use.

time as the 30-day appellate process from this Order

has expired. If, for whatever reason, this Order is

reversed, the relief granted herein shall be rescinded.

Deputy Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County

I find from the testimony and evidence presented at the hearing before me that the Petitioners have, in fact, proven the practical difficulty standards as set forth above and that the variance requested should be granted. In the opinion of this Deputy Zoning Commissioner, the Petitioner has satisfied the burdens imposed upon him by the B.C.Z.R. The proposed residence is certainly appropriate for a parcel of land this size and magnitude. I cannot think of a better use which will preserve the residential character, open views, and natural state of this property. It appears that the opposition to this request was generated by the fact that the Petitioners originally requested a height variance of 65 feet in lieu of the permitted 35. I can understand how a house with a roof line 65 feet height might generate concern and opposition from surrounding residents. I further find that the granting of this variance is in strict harmony with the spirit and intent of the B.C.Z.R. and that the granting of this relief is accomplished without injury to the public health, safety or

Pursuant to advertisement, posting of the property, and public hearing held thereon, and for the reasons set forth above, the variance requested, as modified, should be granted.

THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED by the Deputy Zoning Commissioner for Baltimore County this $\frac{1}{2}$ day of June, 1995 that the Petition for Variance seeking relief from Section 1A01.3.A of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations (B.C.Z.R.) to permit a dwelling height of 47 feet in lieu of the maximum permitted 35 feet, in accordance with Petitioner's Exhibit 1, be and is hereby GRANTED, subject to the following restrictions:

> 1) The Petitioners may apply for their building permit and be granted same upon receipt of this Order; however, Petitioners are hereby made aware that prodeeding at this time is at their own risk until such

> > - 7-

Baltimore County Government Zoning Commissioner Office of Planning and Zoning

Suite 112 Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue Towson, MD 21204

June 12, 1995

(410) 887-4386

Dr. & Mrs. Melvin Duckett P.O. Box 178 Phoenix, Maryland 21131

RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE N/S Bacon Hall Road, 1400' E of the c/l of Gillett Road (900 Bacon Hall Road) 7th Election District - 3rd Councilmanic District Melvin Duckett, et ux - Petitioners Case No. 95-351-A

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Duckett:

Enclosed please find a copy of the decision rendered in the above-captioned matter. The Petition for Variance has been granted in accordance with the attached Order.

In the event any party finds the decision rendered is unfavorable, any party may file an appeal to the County Board of Appeals within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order. For further information on filing an appeal, please contact the Zoning Administration and Development Management office at 887-3391.

> Very truly yours, Deputy Zoning Commissioner

for Baltimore County

Cáse File

cc: Mr. Tim Sanders, Sanders Designs 108 W. Timonium Road, Timonium, Md. 21093

Ms. Kristen Forsyth, The Valleys Planning Council P.O. Box 5402, Towson, Md. 21285-5402

Mr. Tim Mullan 1620 Cold Bottom Road, Sparks, Md. 21152 People's Counsel

Printed with Soybean Ink
on Recycled Paper

BEFORE THE RE: PETITION FOR VARIANCE 900 Bacon Hall Road, N/S Bacon Hall Rd, 1400'+/- E of c/l Gillett Road, 7th ZONING COMMISSIONER Election District, 3rd Councilmanic Dr. Melvin Duckett and Kathy Duckett

Petitioner

OF BALTIMORE COUNTY CASE NO. 95-351-A

* * * * * * * * * * * *

ENTRY OF APPEARANCE

Please enter the appearance of the People's Counsel in the abovecaptioned matter. Notice should be sent of any hearing dates or other proceedings in this matter and of the passage of any preliminary or final Order.

> Peter Max Cinneinan People's Counsel for Baltimore County

Caroles, Demilio Deputy People's Counsel Room 47, Courthouse 400 Washington Avenue Towson, MD 21204 (410) 887-2188

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 20 day of April, 1995, a copy of the foregoing Entry of Appearance was mailed to Tim Sanders, Sanders

Designs, 108 W. Timonium Road, Timonium, MD 21093, representative for Petitioners.

> Peter Max Zimmerman PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN

general welfare.

which is presently moned RC-2

This Petition shall be filed with the Office of Zoning Administration & Development Management.

The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Ballimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Variance from Section(s) 1A01.3.A To allow a structure (dwelling) with a height of 55 feet in lieu of the maximum required 35 feet.

of the Zoning Regulations of Baltimore County, to the Zoning Law of Baltimore County, for the tollowing ressures. (indicate hardship or practical difficulty) Practical difficulty - restricted height would impact the architectural design appropriateness of the project.
Location of proposed dwelling on owner's property is such that the requested height variance should not impact upon

Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by Zoning Regulations. I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Variance advertising, posting, etc., upon filing of this petition, and further agree to and are to be bound by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the Zoning are for Baltimore County.

neighboring properties.

TO: FUTUXENT PUBLISHING COMPANY

CASE NUMBER: 95-351-1 (Item 342)

7th Election District - 3rd Councilmanic

ZONING COMMISSIONER FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

M/S Bacon Hall Road, 1400'+/- E of c/l Gillett Road

Legal Owners: Dr. Melvin Duckett and Kathy Duckett

900 Bacon Hall Road

LAWRENCE E. SCHMIDT

Please foward billing to:

Dr. & Mrs. Melvin Duckett

P. O. Box 178

771-9024

Phoenix, ND 21131

April 20, 1995 Issue - Jeffersonian

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Louing Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore

Room 196 of the County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue in Towson, Maryland 21204

HEARING: TUESDAY, MAY 9, 1995 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 106, County Office Building.

County, will hold a public hearing on the property identified herein in

Room 118, Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204 as follows:

Variance to allow a structure (dwelling) with a height of 65 feet in lieu of the maximum required 35 feet.

NUTES: (1) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS PLEASE CALL 887-3353.

(2) FOR INFORMATION CONCERING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, PLEASE CALL 887-3391.

	_	City State Name, Address and phone number of representativer at the contacted.
ype or Print Name)		Phoenix, Marylani 21131
torney for Petitioner:		P.O. Box 378 4:11-771-9324
SI SI	ate Zipcode	Signature
		Cachy Jucklet
dress		(Type or Print Name)
		Kathy Duckett
gnaturo		Signature
	•	
rpe or Print Name)		(Type or Print Name)
		Dr. Melvin Duckett
ntract Purchaser/Lessee:		Legal Owner(s):

ZONING DEPARTMENT OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

	District 7th Date of Posting 4/21/95
	Posted for:
	Petitioner: Dr. No /Vin + Kathe Duckett
	Location of property: 900 Bacon Hol Rd N/5
	Location of Signe: Taining rood way on proporty being sound
	and de la crista de la caractería de la como de la como As la como de la comencia de la como de la c
	Remarks:
)	Posted by Male of return: 4/18/95
	Number of Signe:

CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the annexed advertisement was published in THE JEFFERSONIAN, a weekly newspaper published

THE JEFFERSONIAN.

in Towson, Baltimore County, Md., once in each of ____ successive weeks, the first publication appearing on Poil 1925.

LEGAL AD. - TOWSON

Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management

111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-3353

April 17, 1995

NOTICE OF HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing on the property identified herein in Room 106 of the County Office Building, 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue in Towson, Maryland 21204

Room 118, Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue, Towson, Maryland 21204 as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 95-351-A (Item 342)

900 Bacon Hall Road N/S Bacon Hall Road, 1400'+/- E of c/l Gillett Road 7th Election District - 3rd Councilmanic Legal Owners: Dr. Melvin Duckett and Kathy Duckett HEARING: TUESDAY, MAY 9, 1995 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 106, County Office Building.

Variance to allow a structure (dwelling) with a height of 65 feet in lieu of the maximum required 35 feet.

NOTES: (1) ZONING SIGH & POST MUST BE RETURNED TO RM. 104, 111 W. CHESAPEAKE AVENUE ON THE HEARING DATE. (2) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE: FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS PLEASE CALL 887-3353. (3) FOR INFORMATION CONCERING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THIS OFFICE AT 887-3391.

County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County OLD COURTHOUSE, ROOM 49

400 WASHINGTON AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 (410) 887-3180

Hearing Room - Room 48 Old Courthouse, 400 Washington Avenue

August 7, 1995

NOTICE OF ASSIGNMENT

NO POSTPONEMENTS WILL BE GRANTED WITHOUT GOOD AND SUFFICIENT REASONS. REQUESTS FOR POSTPONEMENTS MUST BE IN WRITING AND IN STRICT COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 2(b). NO POSTPONEMENTS WILL BE GRANTED WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) DAYS OF SCHEDULED HEARING DATE UNLESS IN FULL COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 2(c), COUNTY COUNCIL BILL NO. 59-79.

CASE NO. 95-351-A

MELVIN DUCKETT, ET UX N/s Bacon Hall Road, 1400' E of c/l Gillett Road (900 Bacon Hall Road) 7th Election District 3rd Councilmanic District

VAR -Dwelling height of 47' in lieu of maximum 35' (1A01.3A)

6/12/95 -D.Z.C.'s Order in which Petition for Variances is GRANTED with restrictions.

ASSIGNED FOR: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1995 at 10:00 a.m.

cc: John Bernstein, Executive Director Valleys Planning Council

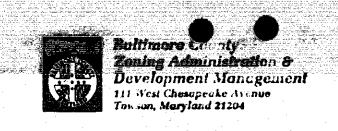
Appellant /Protestant Petitioners

Dr. & Mrs. Melvin Duckett Mr. Tim Sanders Sanders Designs

Mr. Tim Mullin People's Counsel for Baltimore County

Pat Keller Lawrence E. Schmidt Timothy M. Kotroco W. Carl Richards, Jr. /PDM Docket Clerk /PDM Arnold Jablon, Director /PDM Virginia W. Barnhart, County Attorney

> Kathleen C. Weidenhammer Administrative Assistant



Taken by JEF

DUCKETT - 300 Bacon Hall Rd.

OIU VARIANCE - \$50.00 # 85 00

Please Make Checks Payable To: Baltimore County

95 JUL 20 65 10: 14

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING ZONING DEPARTMENT OF BALTIMORE COUNTY 95-351-17

Towsen, Maryland Petitioner: Melvin Puck th, of any

Location of property: 900 Bacom Hall Rd., Ms Location of Signer Facing Too Liky por property being appoint for soundy

Baltimore County Government Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management

Baltimore County Governmen Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management

ZONING HEARING ADVERTISING AND POSTING REQUIREMENTS & PROCEDURES

Baltimore County Zoning Regulations require that notice be given to the general public/neighboring property owners relative to property

This office will ensure that the legal requirements for posting and advertising are satisfied. However, the petitioner is responsible for

1) Posting fees will be accessed and paid to this office at the

2) Billing for legal advertising, due upon receipt, will come

Dr. & Mrs. Melvin Duckett

900 Bacon Hall Road

from and should be remitted directly to the newspaper. NON-PAYMENT OF ADVERTISING FEES WILL STAY ISSUANCE OF ZONING ORDER.

a sign on the property and placement of a notice in at least one

newspaper of general circulation in the County.

the costs associated with these requirements.

PAYMENT WILL BE MADE AS FOLLOWS:

time of filing.

For newspaper advertising:

PLEASE FORWARD ADVERTISING BILL TO:

P.O. Box 178

PHONE NUMBER: 410-771-9024

Phoenix, MD 21131

NAME: Dr. & Mrs. Melvin Duckett

Item No.: 342

which is the subject of an upcoming zoning hearing. For those petitions

which require a public hearing, this notice is accomplished by posting

11 West Chesapeake Avenue

owson, MD 21204



111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-3353

(410) 887-3353

(Revised 04/09/93)

May 4, 1995

Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Duckett P. O. Box 178 Phoenix, Maryland 21131

> RE: Item No.: 342 Case No.: 95-351-A Petitioner: Dr. M. Duckett, et ux

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Duckett:

The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC), which consists of representatives from Baltimore County approving agencies, has reviewed the plans submitted with the above referenced petition. Said petition was accepted for processing by, the Office of Zoning Administration and Development Management (ZADM), Development Control Section on April 4, 1995.

Any comments submitted thus far from the members of ZAC that offer or request information on your petition are attached. These comments are not intended to indicate the appropriateness of the zoning action requested, but to assure that all parties; i.e., zoning commissioner, attorney, petitioner, etc. are made aware of plans or problems with regard to the proposed improvements that may have a bearing on this case. Only those comments that are informative will be forwarded to you; those that are not informative will be placed in the permanent case file.

If you need further information or have any questions regarding these comments, please do not hesitate to contact the commenting agency or Joyce Watson in the zoning office (887-3391).

W. Carl Richards, Jr.

Zoning Supervisor

Attachment(s)

WCR/jw

Printed with Soybean Ink on Recycled Paper

Printed with Soybean Ink

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

Zoning Advisory Committee

Dick Seim - Building Plans Review

SUBJECT: Item No. 342 on the ZAC agenda for April 24, 1995 entitled "Variance to allow a structure (dwelling) with a height of 65 feet in lieu of the maximum required 35 feet."

The applicable building code in Baltimore County for a dwelling is the CABO 1 and 2 Family Dwelling Code/1992 Edition or the BOCA Mational Building Code/1993

The CABO in Section R-103 entitle "Scope" states: The provisions of this code apply to the construction, prefabrication, alteration, use, occupancy and maintenance of detached one or two family dwellings and one-family townhouses not more than 3 stories in height, and their accessory structures. The above subject residence is therefore not addressed by this code.

The BOCA Building Code does address the above subject residence and therefore is applicable.

Article 5 therein, entitled "General Building Limitations," specifically Section 503-Table 503, specifies the type of construction that is required for a dwelling based on the use group (R-3 in this case), height and area. This and all other requirements of this code for an "R-3 use" would apply.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at 410-887-3987.

Baltimore County Government

Fire Department

Zoning Agenda:

Fursuant to your request, the referenced property has been surveyed

this Eureau and the comments below are applicable and required to

THE REFERENCE TO THE FOLLOWING ITEM NUMBERS: 341 ,342, 344, 345,

to consected or incorporated into the final plans for the property.

I. The Fire Marshal's Office has no comments at this time.



ZADM

(410) 887-450

DATE: 04/19/95

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. Arnold Jablon, Director Zoning Administration and Development Management

May 1, 1995

J. Lawrence Pilson Development Coord nator, DEPRM

SUBJECT: Zoning Item (#342 -) Duckett Property 900 Bacon Hall Road Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting of April 17, 1995

The Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management offers the following comments on the above-referenced zoning item.

Ground Water Management

Prior to approval of site for a dwelling unit not served by public water or sewerage, a soil percolation test must be completed which demonstrates suitability of the soils to treat septic waste. Additionally, upon approval of soil percolation tests and prior to approval of a building permit for a dwelling, a well must be drilled which meets the minimum standard of one (1) gallon per minute (GPM) recovery yield.

There is no evidence that the above steps have been completed.

JLP:TE:sp DUCKETT/DEPRM/TXTSBP

Maryland Department of Transportation

O. James Lighthizer Hal Kassoff Administrator

4-14-95

Ms. Joyce Watson Zoning Administration and Development Management Re: Baltimore County Item No.: 342 (TRF)

County Office Building Room 109 111 W. Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204

Dear Ms. Watson:

This office has reviewed the referenced item and we have no objection to approval as it does not access a State roadway and is not effected by any State Highway Administration project.

Please contact Bob Small at 410-333-1350 if you have any questions.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this item.

Very truly yours,

Ronald Burns, Chief Engineering Access Permits

My telephone number is _____ Maryland Relay Service for Impaired Hearing or Speech 1-800-735-2258 Statewide Toll Free Mailing Address: P.O. Box 717 • Baltimore, MD 21203-0717 Street Address: 707 North Calvert Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21202 PETITION PROBLEMS 95-351-A

AGENDA OF APRIL 17, 1995

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

While staff does not oppose the requested Variances, it is clear that the peti-

difficulty and/or unreasonable hardship to justify the granting of the subject

tioners will need to satisfy the burden imposed upon them to prove practical

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

#342 --- JRF

No item number on petition forms.

1. No telephone number for legal owner.

#350 --- MJK??/JCM??

- 1. Who took in petition? MJK signed petition form; JCM signed receipt.
- 2. No original copy of receipt in folder; just xerox. Where is receipt?

Notary section is incorrect/incomplete.

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO: Arnold Jablon, Director DATE: April 24, 1995 Zoning Administration and Development Management

FROM: Robert W. Bowling, P.E., Chief Developers Engineering Section Soning Advisory Committee Meeting for April 2/4, 1995 Items 341, 342, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, and 351

The Developers Engineering Section has reviewed the subject zoning item and we have no comments.

RWB:sw

ITEM341/PZONE/ZAC1

TO: Armold Jablon, Director

FROM: Pat Keller, Director

SUBJECT: Variance Requests

SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

DATE: April 20, 1995

Zoning Administration &

Development Management

Office of Planning and Zoning

Baltimore County Government Department of Permits and Licenses

111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-3610

July 14, 1995

Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Duckett P.O. Box 178 Phoenix, Maryland 21133

> RE: Petition for Variance N/S Bacon Hall Road, 1400 ft. E of the c/l of Gillett Road (900 Bacon Hall Road) 7th Election District 3rd Councilmanic District Melvin Duckett, et ux-Petitioner Case No. 95-351-A

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Duckett:

Please be advised that an appeal of the above-referenced case was filed in this office on July 11, 1995 by John Bernstein, the Valleys Planning Council, Inc. All materials relative to the case have been forwarded to the Board of Appeals.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Julie Winiarski at 887-3353.

Department of Permits and Development Management

cc: Mr. Tim Sanders Mr. Tim Mullan People's Counsel

AJ:bb

Printed with Soybean Ink on Recycled Paper

T00 East Joppa Road Suite 901 Towson, MD 21286-5500

process Administration and

Inliners County Office Building

NE: Frepenty Owner: SEE BELOW

STATION: DISTRIBUTION MEETING OF APR. 17, 1995.

la slopment Management

Ther No.: SEE BELOW

leatle ten:

-11 STOP-1105

reld Jabien

i iza zatem

847, 848, **349, 350 AND 351.**

RELIEWER: LT. ROBERT P. SAUERWALD Fire Marshal Office, PHONE 887-4881, MS-1102F

of Franke to Reported F**ace**

APPEAL

Petition for Variance N/S Bacon Hall Road, 1400 ft. E of the c/l Gillett Road (900 Bacon Hall Road) 7th Election District - 3rd Councilmanic District Melvin Duckett, et ux-PETITIONER Case No. 95-351-A

Petition(s) for Variance

Description of Property

Certificate of Posting

Certificate of Publication

Entry of Appearance of People's Counsel

Zoning Plans Advisory Committee Comments Petitioner(s) and Protestant(s) Sign-In Sheets

Plat to Accompany Petition for Variance (not marked as exhibit)

One Photograph

Valleys Planning Council

Letter to Zoning Commissioner from John Bernstein dated April 26, 1995

Notice of Appeal received on July 11, 1995 from John Bernstein, The

Deputy Zoning Commissioner's Order dated June 12, 1995 (Granted)

cc: John Bernstein, The Valleys Planning Council, Inc., 212 Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 5402, Towson, Maryland 21285 Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Duckett, P.O. Box 178, Phoenix, Maryland 21131

Mr. Tim Sanders, Sanders Designs, 108 W. Timonium Road, Timonium, Maryland 21093 Mr. Tim Mullin, 1620 Cold Bottom Road, Sparks, Maryland 2:152 People's Counsel of Baltimore County, M.S. 2010

Request Notification: Patrick Keller, Director, Planning & Zoming Timothy M. Kotroco, Deputy Zoning Commissioner Arnold Jablon, Director of PDM

COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS OF BALTIMORE COUNTY

MINUTES OF DELIBERATION

March 7, 1996 @ 9:10 a.m.

Harry E. Buchheister, Jr.

Administrative Assistant

Those present at this deliberation included John Bernstein,

Executive Director, The Valleys Planning Council; and Carole

95-351-A, Melvin Duckett, et ux. The purpose is to deliberate

the matter in conformance with the open meetings law. I will

I think it's a pretty simple cut-and-dried case. This is a

Petition for Variance. The record will reflect that I gave

Dr. Duckett no less than two chances, possibly three, to

illustrate for the Board how his property meets the test

pursuant to Cromwell v. Ward. I also gave him a few

opportunities to continue the matter so that he could come

back better prepared. Instead, opting on his request to press

forward, I found nothing unique about this property which

would lead the Board to believe it's necessary to provide a

variance. Nor do I see any opportunity for any hardship in

this particular matter either. Therefore, I would deny the

seems. But as the Chairman has said, there's really no merit

in granting variance he requests. I think with a 35-foot

height, a very substantial, attractive mansion, manor house,

whatever, can be put on this site without the variance, and it

to review the file, notes at the hearing of November 21, and

various exhibits offered into evidence and identification. Petitioner elected to appear in a de novo hearing and presented his case in exemplary manner as to why variance

(Noted at this point that he had just received

HEB: It's a fantastic residence; a most impressive structure it

CLM: In reaching a decision on this variance, I had the opportunity

notice that Dr. Duckett was on his way.)

S. Demilio, Deputy People's Counsel for Baltimore County.

ROS: Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. We are here on Case No.

(ROS)

(CLM)

(HEB)

Case No. 95-351-A

Robert O. Schuetz

Charles L. Marks

Kathleen C. Bianco

IN THE MATTER OF: Melvin Duckett, et ux

BOARD / PANEL

qo first.

variance.

should be denied.

APPEAL

Petition for Variance N/S Bacon Hall Road, 1400 ft. E of the c/l Gillett Road (900 Bacon Hall Road) 7th Election District - 3rd Councilmanic District Melvin Duckett, et ux-PETITIONER Case No. 95-351-A

AMENDED

Protestant's Exhibit(s) 1 - Development Plan of the Grimes Property

Three Board Exhibits for the New Residence for Dr. & Kathy Duckett

cc: John Bernstein, The Valleys Planning Council, Inc., 212 Washington Avenue, P.O. Box 5402, Towson, Maryland 21285 Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Duckett, P.O. Box 178, Phoenix, Maryland 21131 Mr. Tim Sanders, Sanders Designs, 108 W. Timonium Road, Timonium, Maryland 21093

Mr. Tim Mullin, 1620 Cold Bottom Road, Sparks, Maryland 21152 People's Counsel of Baltimore County, M.S. 2010

Request Notification: Patrick Keller, Director, Planning & Zoning Timothy M. Kotroco, Deputy Zoning Commissioner Arnold Jablon, Director of PDM

should be granted by the Board; only element missing was relative to legal aspects that govern in such cases; request is for a variance from 1A01.3A of the zoning regulations to permit height of 65' instead of permitted 35'. In actuality, the correct measurement is from the peak of the roof and not from the top of the cupola. It appears to be 47' and not 65'.

variance. Such variance can only be granted in situations where special circumstances or conditions exist peculiar to the land or structure which is the subject of the variance request, and where strict compliance with the zoning regulations would result in practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship. Additionally, if the variance is granted, it must be in strict harmony with the spirit and intent of height and area regulations, and only without injury to the health, safety and general welfare. There is no other power to grant.

This property consists of 237+ acres. The valley area contains varying parcels of greater and lesser land usage; some lots containing 300 or greater acreage. Testimony proffered indicated that such property was quite typical of entire valley; nothing inherently unusual or unique. The average structure height is 20 to 25 feet. There are no other structures exceeding height restrictions in the area. Argument was advanced by Appellants - to preserve and protect the area; must be overcome to grant variance. Restrictions on Petitioner's property do not solely apply to Dr. Duckett, but

If a hardship is present, it's not imposed by the subject site denied.

8/07/95 -Notice of Assignment for hearing scheduled for Tuesday, November 21, 1995 at 10:00 a.m. sent to following:

John Bernstein, Executive Director Valleys Planning Council Dr. & Mrs. Melvin Duckett Mr. Tim Sanders Sanders Designs Mr. Tim Mullin People's Counsel for Baltimore County Pat Keller Lawrence E. Schmidt Timothy M. Kotroco W. Carl Richards, Jr. /PDM Docket Clerk /PDM Arnold Jablon, Director /PDM Virginia W. Barnhart, County Attorney

11/21/95 -Hearing concluded this date. To be scheduled for public deliberation.

12/01/95 -Rule 8 papers filed by Valleys Planning Council.

2/09/96 -Notice of Deliberation sent to parties; scheduled for Thursday, March 7, 1996 at 9:00 a.m. Copies also to R.C.B.

3/04/96 -Letter from P. Zimmerman regarding Turkey Point case and application of holding in same to this proceeding (submittal of this letter was granted at conclusion of hearing /prior to oral

County Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

OLD COURTHOUSE, ROOM 49 400 WASHINGTON AVENUE TOWSON, MARYLAND 21204 (410) 887-3180

February 9, 1996

LOCATION

NOTICE OF DELIBERATION

Having concluded this case on November 21, 1995, the County Board of Appeals has scheduled the following date and time for deliberation in the matter of:

> MELVIN DUCKETT, ET UX -Petitioners CASE NO. 95-351-A

Thursday, March 7, 1996 at 9:00 a.m.

Room 48, Basement, Old Courthouse

cc: John Bernstein, Executive Director Valleys Planning Council

Appellant /Protestant

Dr. & Mrs. Melvin Duckett Petitioners Mr. Tim Sanders Sanders Designs

Mr. Tim Mullin

People's Counsel for Baltimore County Pat Keller Lawrence E. Schmidt Timothy M. Kotroco W. Carl Richards, Jr. /PDM Docket Clerk /PDM Arnold Jablon, Director /PDM Virginia W. Barnhart, County Attorney

> Kathleen C. Bianco Administrative Assistant

Copied: R.C.B.

Printed with Soybean Ink

Baltimore County, Maryland OFFICE OF PEOPLE'S COUNSEL Room 47, Old Court House 400 Washington Ave.

Towson, MD 21204

CAROLE S. DEMILIO Deputy People's Counsel

People's Counsel MEMORANDUM TO: All Civic Associations DATE: June 22, 1993

: People's Counsel for Baltimore County

: Appearance before the Board of Appeals as

Attached to this memorandum is a copy of Rule 8 of the Rules of Practice and Procedure of the County Board of Appeals which governs the appearance before the Board of representatives of civic or improvement associations.

Representative of a Civic Association

This rule requires the following:

1. That the person who testifies can describe accurately the number of members in the association and the geographic limits of the association; and

2. That the person is authorized to speak for and present the views of the association. This second requirement can only be met by:

a. A resolution (in duplicate) adopted by the association at its annual meeting or first meeting of the year *signed by the president and attested by the secretary. This resolution must state that the responsibility for review and action of all zoning matters is placed in the board of directors or a duly elected zoning committee; and

A written affidavit (in duplicate) signed by the president of the association and attested by the secretary that he is currently a duly elected member of the board of directors or zoning committee of that association, or is an attorney appointed to represent the board of directors or zoning committee; and

c. A resolution (in duplicate) adopted by the board of directors or zoning committee signed by the president and attested by the secretary stating the position of the association.

For your assistance, we have also attached sample resolutions and affidavits which may be used by your association. They have been reviewed by the Board of Appeals for form, but, of course, the substance remains the responsibility of the community association.

> Peter Max Zimmerman People's Counsel for Baltimore County

Enclosures

Deliberation /Melvin Duckett, et ux /95-351-A

Section 307.1 sets forth the requirements for granting of

And if the Board should grant the variance, needs to be stated findings of fact setting forth the reasons. Maryland courts have provided guidance in recent years. Questions are as follows: Whether special conditions exist; Special circumstances related to hardship; Hardship not generally shared by other properties; Is property unusual in topography, by shape or size; Is it the uniqueness of the land or the plight of the owner that is the problem?

all properties in the area.

but rather by the building plans themselves. It is difficult to believe that a lending institution would deny financing because of height restrictions, when site already gains an imposing view of surrounding neighborhood and such large acreage. The Petitioner has not demonstrated that the property suffers any unusual or singular disadvantage not commensurate to other properties in the area. Reversal would lie in legislative change. The variance request should be Respectfully submitted, Katheen & Deaxed

Kathleen C. Bianco

Administrative Assistant

ROS: We are unanimous. The written decision will come out from the

* * * * * * *

Board at some future date; not necessarily today. But any

Petition for Judicial Review should come from the date of that

Deliberation /Melvin Duckett, et ux /95-351-A

(Petition for Variance DENIED.)

Order and not today's date. Thank you.

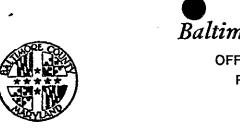


PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN

(*or at a

special

meeting)





RESOLVED: That at the ANNVEL Valleys Planning Cornil Association held on __, 19 95 , it was decided by the Association that responsibility for review and action on all zoning matters for the period 1995 placed in the (Board of Directors) (Zoning Committee) consisting of the following members:

See attached

AS WITNESS OUR HANDS AND SEAL THIS 10 day of brencher, 19 95. Valleys Planmy Lound Association

Valley Planny bund ASSOCIATION

Association as adopted by the (Board of Directors) (Zoning Committee) on the zoning matter known as:

> Bacon Hall Vanance - Melin Drukett.

The Variance shall be opposed by the Valleys Planny Comus

Secretary

altimore County, Marylan

OFFICE OF PEOPLE'S COUNSEL Room 47, Old CourtHouse 400 Washington Ave. Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-2188

CAROLE S. DEMILIC Deputy People's Course.

March 4, 1996

Mr. Robert O. Schuetz, Chairman Board of Appeals of Baltimore County Room 49 Courthouse

> Re: 900 Bacon Hall Road, N/S Bacon Hall Rd. 1400'+/- E of c/l Gillett Road, 7th Election Dist., 3rd Councilmanic MELVIN DUCKETT, ET UX., Petitioners Case No. 95-351-A

At the conclusion of the hearing and prior to oral closing argument, our office requested permission to elect to submit written comments concerning the application of the holding in Turkey Point Property Owners Association, Inc. v. Anderson.

The parties were advised of this Court of Special Appeals case immediately prior to the Board hearing. Our office had not had an opportunity to obtain or read the opinion.

You agreed to accept written comments on this issue. You also indicated the Board is seeking an opinion from the Office of Law as to whether this decision applies to hearings before the Board of

In <u>Turkey Point</u>, a non-attorney filed an order of appeal and Memorandum in the Circuit Court on behalf of a community association. The individual also presented oral argument at the Circuit Court. The opinion focused on representation and participation of the community association before the Circuit Court.

In the instant case, Valleys Planning Council, Inc. (VPC) participated at the hearing before the Deputy Zoning Commissioner. PC noted an appeal to the County Board of Appeals in compliance with BCZR Section 500.10, which states:

Mr. Robert O. Schuetz, Chairman

Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

provided." (Footnotes omitted.)

March 4, 1996

Page Two

"Any person or persons, jointly or severally, or any taxpayer or any official, department, board or bureau of Baltimore County, feeling aggrieved by any decision of the zoning commissioner shall have the right to appeal therefrom to the board of zoning appeals. Notice of such appeal shall be filed, in writing, with the zoning commissioner within ten days from the date of any final order appealed from. Such appeals shall be heard and disposed of by the board of zoning appeals as hereinafter

(See also Baltimore County Code, Section 26-132, attached.)

BCZR Appendix G Rule 4 sets forth the procedure to conduct hearings before the Board of Appeals.

BCZR Appendix G Rule 6(a) addresses Appearance and Practice before the Board, and states:

"Any individual who is a party to a proceeding before the board may appear in his own behalf; any member of a partnership may appear as representing said partnership if it is a party; a duly authorized officer of a corporation, trust or an association may appear as representing said body if it is a party to the proceedings; and a duly authorized officer or an employee of any political subdivision or body or department may represent the same in any proceeding before the Board."

BCZR Rule 8 permits community associations to participate in Board hearings with a designated representative.

Thus, VPC was authorized to file an appeal of the Zoning Commissioner's decision and to participate through a representative at the Board hearing.

Our office is authorized to appear and participate in zoning matters before the Board of Appeals. See Baltimore County Charter Section 524.1.

The Deputy People's Counsel conducted the Protestants' case at the hearing in the instant case. The authorized representative from VPC testified on the organization's position in the case.

Therefore, in compliance with <u>Turkey Point</u>, a licensed attorney conducted direct examination of the VPC witness, cross examination of the Petitioner, and presented opening and closing legal arguments.

AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF MARYLAND BALTIMORE COUNTY, SS:

Exentive

I hereby swear upon penalty of perjury that I am currently a Drugor duly elected member of the (Board of Directors) (Zoning Committee) of the Valleys Planning Comul Association.

John Bernster

Mr. Robert O. Schuetz, Chairman

cc: Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Duckett

Mr. Tim Sanders, Sanders Designs

Valleys Planning Council

Mr. John Bernstein, Executive Director

March 4, 1996

Page Three

PMZ/CSD/caf

Board of Appeals of Baltimore County

If the Board of Appeals should determine that a corporation or

Very truly yours,

Peter Max Zimmerman

CAS Derk

Deputy People's Counsel

Carole S. Demilio

Peter Mar Zimnemujy

People's Counsel for Baltimore County

association must be represented by counsel at Board hearings, it is

holding in <u>Turkey Point</u>. An attorney conducted the hearing of an appeal lawfully filed in accordance with the Baltimore County Code.

submitted that the facts in the instant case do not violate the

EXCERPT FROM RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE OF COUNTY BOARD OF APPEALS

Rule 8. Special rule pertaining to persons appearing before the board as representatives of civic or improvement associations.

a. Before any person shall testify on behalf of any civic or improvement association, it shall be shown that he has accurate knowledge of the number of members in the association and geographical limits of the association.

b. Before any such person shall testify it shall also be shown that he is authorized to speak for and present the views of the civic or improvement association.

c. Such authorization shall consist of presenting at the hearing or prior thereto a resolution in duplicate duly adopted by the association at its annual meeting or first meeting of each year, signed by the president and attested by the secretary, providing that the responsibility for review and action on all zoning matters be placed in its board of directors or a duly elected zoning committee.

d. Before any such authorized person shall testify, it shall be shown by written affidavit in duplicate, signed by the president of the association and attested by the secretary, that he is currently a duly elected member of the board of directors or zoning committee of that association, or is an attorney appointed to represent the board of directors or zoning committee.

e. Before any such authorized person shall testify, a resolution stating the position of the association as adopted by the board of directors or zoning committee, signed by the president and attested by the secretary, shall also be produced in duplicate at the hearing.

> BALTIMORE COUNTY CODE PLANNING, ZONING AND SUBDIVISION CONTROL

§ 26-132

(b) The zoning commissioner shall furnish with reasonable promptness a copy of any paper or record in his office to any person applying for same upon payment in advance of the sum of fifty cents (\$0.50) per page or as otherwise established by the administrative officer for transcribing, photographing, or otherwise reproducing such paper. Such reproduction when so made and certified under the seal of the zoning commissioner shall be evidence in any court or before any county board, commission, or official.

(c) The zoning commissioner shall permit any resident of the county or representative of the press to inspect and examine, as soon as received for filing or at any time thereafter, all papers filed in the zoning commissioner's office and to make memoranda or notes therefrom for any lawful purpose whatsoever, without payment of fees therefor, and also to examine the records and indexes in his office, free of charge. It shall be the duty of the zoning commissioner to afford such person immediate access to such papers or records and a full opportunity to examine the same and make memoranda therefrom.

(d) All records kept by the zoning commissioner shall be open to inspection by the county executive or any member of the county council at all reasonable times, whether or not such records are required to be kept by statute or ordinance. The zoning commissioner is authorized, in his discretion, to permit other county officials to remove a zoning file from his office; provided such official signs a regular receipt book to be kept by the zoning commissioner as a permanent record which shall show the date and time that such file is taken and returned. When the file is returned, the receipt book must be signed by the person who had withdrawn the file and countersigned by the zoning commissioner or his deputy.

(e) Nothing contained in this title or elsewhere shall prevent the zoning commissioner from transferring any file in his official custody to the board of appeals or to any circuit court or to the state court of appeals while review of proceedings is pending, and upon making such transfer the zoning commissioner is hereby relieved from any duties or responsibilities in connection therewith until such file is returned to him.

(f) The provisions of this section shall be executed by the deputy zoning commissioner as well as the zoning commissioner, and they may delegate to their chief clerk the performance of the daily duties and responsibilities in connection therewith. (Code 1978, § 22-30; Bill No. 18, 1990, § 2; Bill No. 4, 1992, § 1)

Sec. 26-132. Appeals to county board of ap-

 (a) Any person or persons, jointly or severally, or any taxpayer aggrieved or feeling aggrieved by any decision or order of the zoning commissioner or the director of zoning administration and development management shall have the right to appeal therefrom to the county board of appeals. No official, office, department, or board of the county aggrieved or feeling aggrieved by any decision of the zoning commissioner shall have the right to appeal therefrom to the county board of appeals without the prior approval of the administrative officer and the county attorney. People's counsel is not subject to such prior approval. Notice of such appeals shall be filed, in writing, with the director within thirty (30) days from the date of any final order appealed, together with the required fee as provided in the zoning regulations. Such appeals shall be heard and disposed of by the county board of appeals as may be provided in the Charter and the board's own rules of procedure. Any reclassification when granted by the county board of appeals shall, in the absence of an appeal therefrom, have the force and effect of law.

(b) For purposes of this section, the term "person aggrieved or feeling aggrieved" includes a duly constituted civic, improvement, or community association if:

(1) The property or issue which is the subject of the final order being appealed is:

a. Located within the geographic limits of the association, said limits to be defined and determined by the first of the following criteria found applicable:

> 1. If incorporated, any geographic description contained in the associa-

Supp. No. 2

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN People's Counsel

400 Washington Avenue Towson, MD 21204

Hand-delivered

Dear Chairman Schuetz:

Appeals.

tion's corporate articles, bylaws, charter, or similar document; 2. If not so incorporated, by any metes and boundaries description for the association contained in any zoning map, plat, or similar document on file at the county department of public works, the land records office of the county, or at

some other county governmental agency or department; 3. If no such description exists, by any street, road, or thoroughfare description for the association contained in any zoning map, plat, or similar document on file in the county department of public works, the land records office of the county, or at some other county governmental agency or depart-

b. The property or issue is of such a nature and kind as to be within the association's discernable and assessable tax base if such exists; or of such a nature as to personally and specifically affect, damage, or impact the members of the association in a way different from that suffered by the members of any other associations or in a way different from a general interest such as is the concern shared by the public in general; or of such a nature or type as to give the members of the association a valid and discernible property interest therein or

(2) The association complies with the rules of procedure of the board. (Code 1978, § 22-32; Bill No. 18, 1990, § 2; Bill No. 116, 1990, § 2; Bill No. 4, 1992, § 1) Annotations-Remedy provided under title 34 of 1958 Code held to be an alternative to that afforded by this section, at least where it is affirmatively alleged that the planning board has violated zoning regulations and that a violation of either the zoning or the subdivision regulations was subject to an injunction under title 34. Lynn v. Goldman, 216 Md. 562, 141 County council need not follow the recommendations of the planning board, and need not have any further or additional

hearing in regard to any changes or amendments the county

right thereto.

Supp. No. 2

council may see fit to make. Swethenore Company v. Knestner, 258 Md. 517, 266 A.2d 341 (1970). The people's counsel has the right to appeal zoning decisions. People's Counsel for Baltimore County v. Williams, 45 Md. App. 617, 415 A.2d 585 (1974).

Sec. 26-133. Appeals from the county board

Appeals from the county board of appeals to the courts may be taken in the manner provided in article VI of the Charter (Code 1978, § 22-33)

Annotations-This section 34-7, 1958 Code directs that the court of appeals shall not award cost of the appeal against any party to the appeal except the appellant. Kroen v. Board of Zoning Appeals of Baltimore County 209 Med. 420, 121 A.2d

of the appeal to become most. This section freeds that the court of appeals should not award cost of the arceal against any party to the appeal except the appellant, lake Falls Assn. v. Board of Zoning Appeals of Baltimore County, 209 Md. 561, 121 A.2d 809 (1956); Grau v. Board of Zoning Appeals of Baltimore County, 210 Md. 21, 122 A.2d 525 1956. Hariesty v. Board of Zoning Appeals of Baltimore County, 211 Md. 174,

Cited in Prince George's County v. Donohue. 221 Mi. 372. Construed in Renz v. Bonfield Holding Oc. 223 Md. 34, 158

This section before amendment provided than in the appeal of zoning cases "the court of appeals shall not award must of the appeal against any party to the appeal expert the appealant." Maryland Rule 882a provides that in all cases in the court of appeals "the awarding of costs shall be in the discretion of this court, but unless it is otherwise ordered by this areast costs shall be awarded against the losing party "Held that Maryland Rule 882 applies. Reese et al. v. Mandel et al. 114 Md. 121, 167 A.2d 111 (1961). Referred to in Renz v. Bonfield Holding Co., 223 M± 34, 158

A.2d 615 (1960). A person who was not a party to a proceeding before the board of appeals has no standing to appeal from an inter antered by the board of appeals, Hitzrot v. County Board of Appeals, 262 Md. 297, 278 A.2d 11 (1971).

Sec. 26-134. Correction of zoning map.

(a) The owner of any property may give willien notice to the director of planning and mining that the zoning map last enacted by the county countil does not accurately reflect the final coming classification imposed by the council on the camer's property during the last or prior comprehensive

1756

95-351-A

LEER9818 AMS 00

BEAVIN COMPANY April 8, 1993

DESCRIPTION OF ELISE GILLET BOYCE PROPERTY a.k.s. Bacon Hall Farm Located near Sparks
Sth & 7th ELECTION DISTRICTS BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

Beginning for the same at a point on the western right-of-way of interstate 83, a.k.a. Baltimore-Harrisburg Expressway, a variable width right-of-way, at a point located 105' westerly along a radial line from southbound center-line station 563+00 as determined from State Highway Administration iron rods found at northbound centerline station 542+54.42 and station 587+03.60 and as conveyed to the State Roads Commission of Maryland by deed dated February 5, 1960 and recorded among the land records of Baltimore County in Liber 3665 at Folio 414 and shown on State Roads Commission Plats 21150, 21151, and 21152 and as conveyed to the State of Maryland to the use of The State Highway Administration of the Department of Transportation by deed dated April 24, 1972 and shown on State Roads Commission Plats 36715 and 36716 and on file at the State Highway Administration; said beginning point being also described as located at the point of beginning for the conveyance to Elise Gillet Boyce by deed dated September 22, 1981 and recorded in Liber 6331 at Folio 105. recorded in Liber 6331 at Folio 105.

Thence leaving the point of beginning and running reversely with the eighteenth through twenty-sixth courses of said Liber 6331 at Folio 105 and running with said western right-of-way of Interstate 83 the following nine courses and distances, as now surveyed and adjusted to reflect the Baltimore County Azimuth as determined from Baltimore County Traverse Stations 14912 and 14913;

1. South 36°18'51" East - 48.27';

2. South 55"45"50" East - 51.66";

3. South 39*44*29" East - 196.35"; 4. South 26"12"36" East - 146.88";

5. South 26*06'49" East - 146.35"; 6. South 21*33'56" East - 344.18';

7. South 18*35'13" East - 256.57' to a point of curvature;

PLANNING COUNCIL, INC.

Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County

212 Washington Avenue P.O. Box 5402 Towson, Maryland 21285-5402 410-337-6877 410-296-5409 (FAX)

RE: 900 Bacon Hall Rd, Case #95-351-A (Item 342)

Dear Sir:

Room 112

Old Court House

Towson, MD 21204

The Valleys Planning Council wishes to register its strong opposition to the requested height variance in this case. Cromwell v. Ward stated, re height variances:

"The variance process. . is at least a two step process. The first step requires a finding that the property whereon structures are to be placed. . . is - in and of itself - unique and unusual in a manner different from the nature of surrounding properties. . . Unless there is a finding that the property is unique, unusual, or different, the process stops here and the variance is denied. . ."

There is clearly nothing unique or unusual about the subject property; on the contrary, a glance at the tax map and at contour maps shows that it is a farm highly typical of the area both in size and in topography. This is corroborated by our own long experience with the property.

Further, we would point out that the farm lies in a National Register Historic District and that the proposed structure would form an unwelcome visual intrusion into

Many thanks for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely, **Executive Director**

ce: ZADM

THE VALLEYS PLANNING COUNCIL, INC. 212 Washington Avenue P.O. Box 5402 Towson, Maryland 21285-5402 410-337-6877 410-296-5409 (FAX)

July 11, 1995

Arnold Jablon, Director 111 W. Chesapeake Ave. Towson, MD 21204

> Re: Petition for Variance N/S Bacon Hall Rd, 1400' E of the c/l of Gillett Rd. (900 Bacon Hall Road) 7th Election District - 3rd Councilmanic District Case #95-351-A

Dear Mr. Jablon:

Please enter an appeal of the Valleys Planning Council, Inc., 212 Washington Ave., Towson, MD 21204; and Richard B. Buck, 11219 Greenspring Avenue, Lutherville, MD 21093 to the County Board of Appeals from the order dated June 12, 1995 of the Baltimore County Deputy Zoning Commissioner in the above case. Enclosed is our check for the filing fee.

Please forward to the Valleys Planning Council copies of any papers pertinent to this appeal as appropriate.

> Very truly yours, **Executive Director**

cc: Dr. and Mrs. Melvin Duckett P.O. Box 178 Phoenix, MD 21131

Mr. Tim Sanders 108 W. Timonium Road Timonium, MD 21093



PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

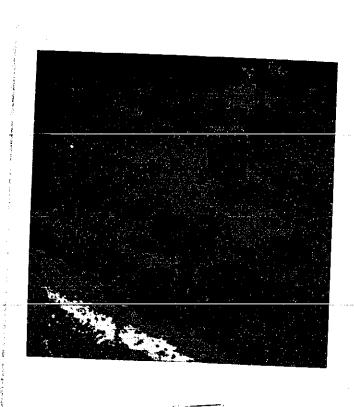
PETITIONER(S) SIGN-IN SHEET

FRONTAL VIEW OF BACON HALL MANOR HOUSE



CARRIAGE HOUSE





THOMAS F. MULLAN, III SPARKS, MARYLAND 21152 July 6, 1995 Dr. Melvin Duckett P. O. Box 178 Phoenix, Maryland 21131 Dear Mel: Enclosed please find some propaganda from Baltimore County concerning the easement program about which we spoke. I am also enclosing a publication from the Valleys Planning Counsel which includes an article on page 3 that outlines Doug Worrall's approach to this situation. He may be of some use to you in the future. Further enclosed, please find an old appraisal that I used when I put my land into the program. The whole transaction is slightly confusing, however, the rewards, in my opinion, are tremendous.

I would think that you land would bring a minimum of \$4,000 per acre tax free. As you may be aware, all of the lands of Mr. Ensor, Spaulding Goetze, and a portion of Mrs. Merryman's are already in the program. I am under the impression that Mrs. Merryman is going to put the remainder of her land in, in the near future. Messrs. Carl and Robert Nash, who are your neighbors on Cedar Grove Road, have put all of their land in, as has Mr. Ensor with his holdings on Cedar Grove Road.

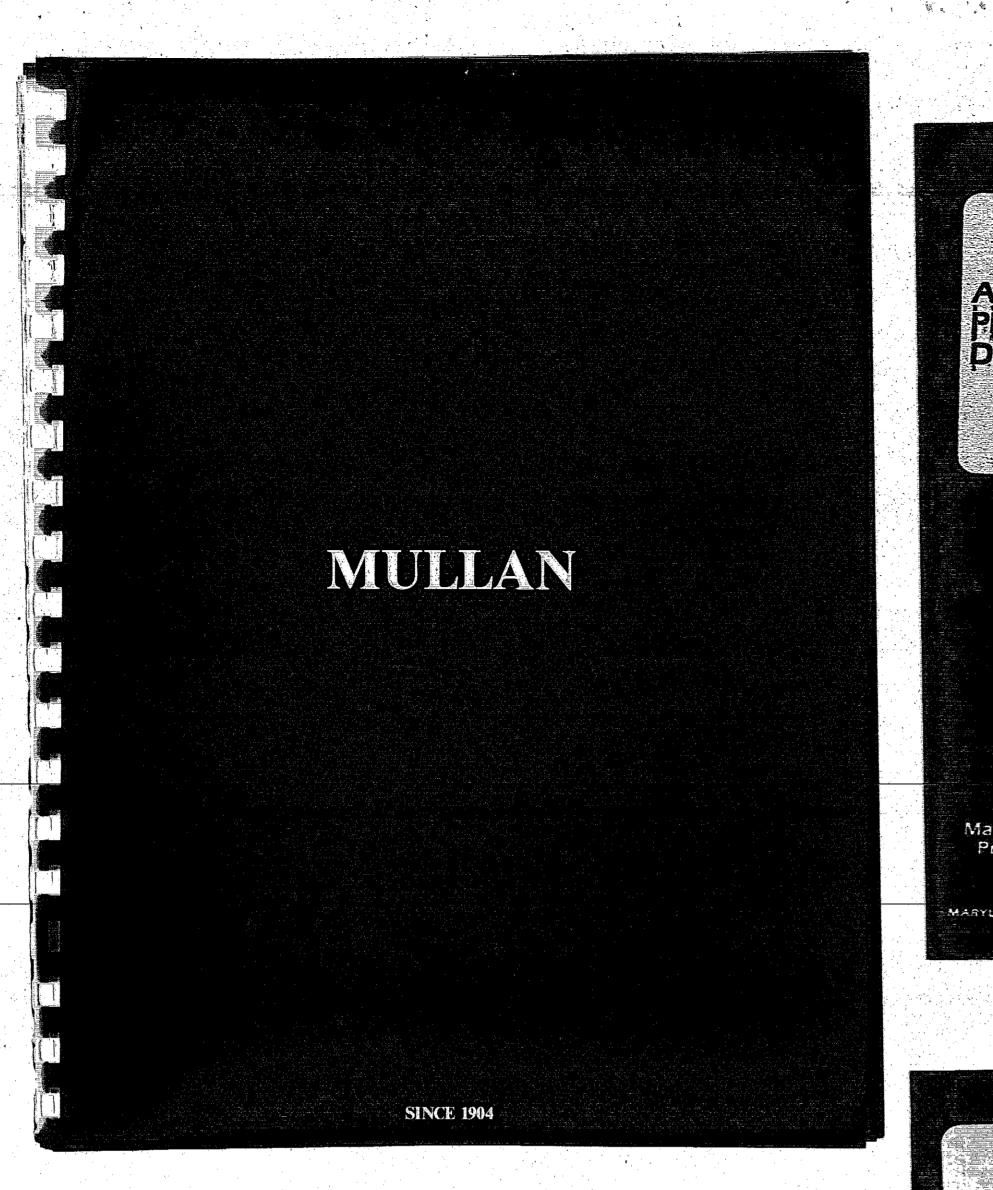
If I can be of further assistance on this or any other matter, please do not hesitate to contact me. My work number is 494-9200 and my home number is 771-4460.

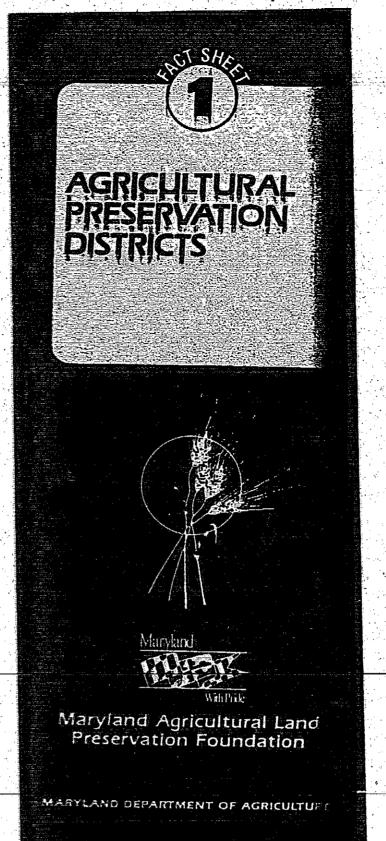
Best of luck to you and your wife in your new home, and welcome to the neighborhood

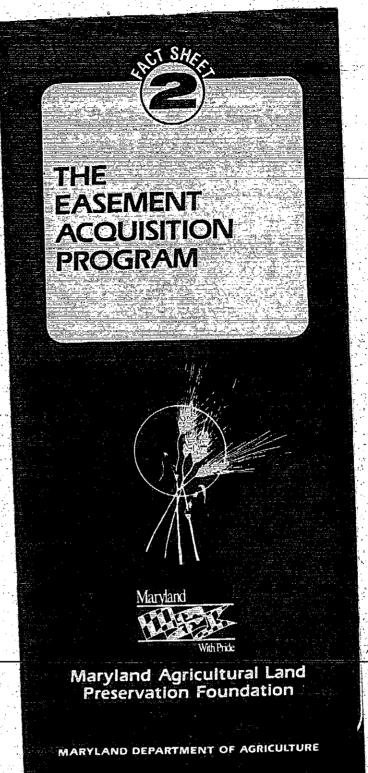
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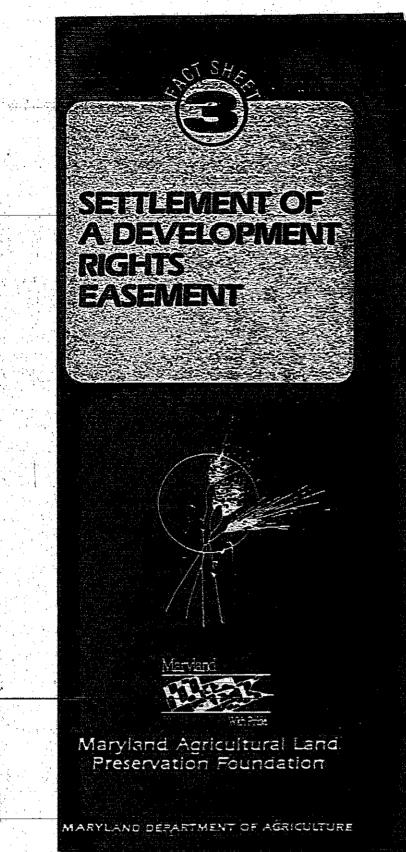
Thomas F. Mullan, III

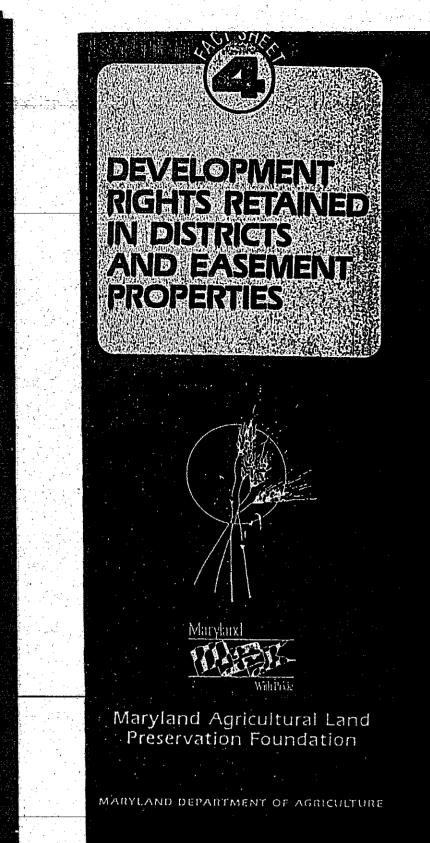
Novery truly yours,

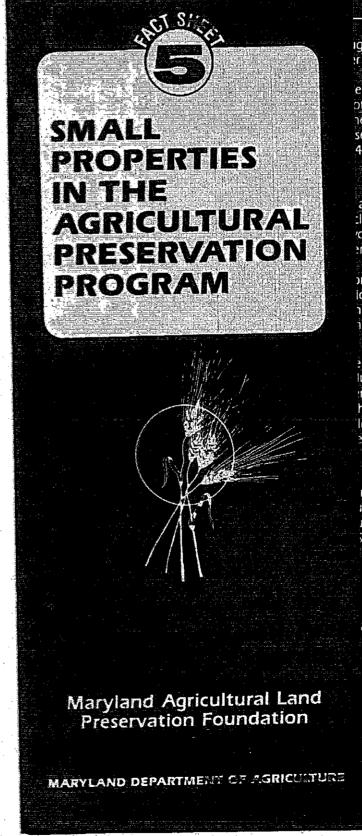


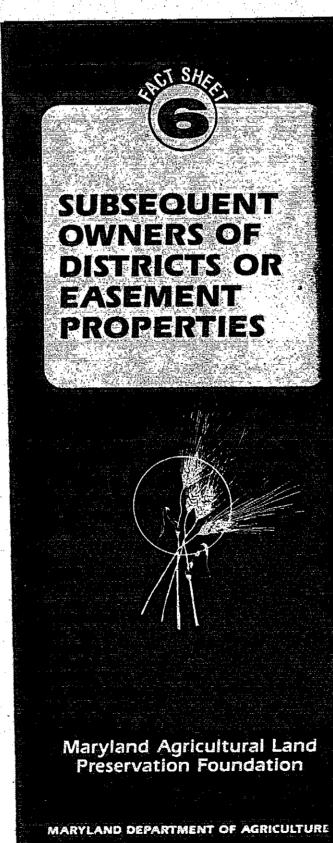


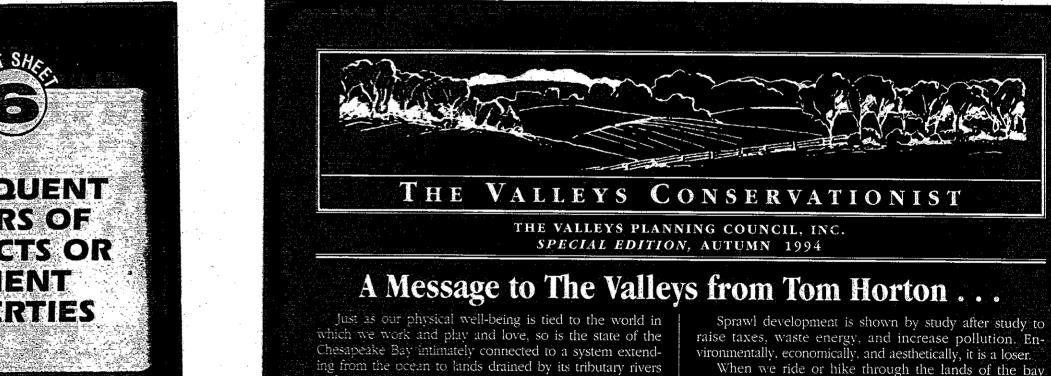












as far away as New York and West Virginia, lands populated by some 15 million people. Its health is equally inseparable from the quality of the air above it and the great, invisible seepages of groundwater from beneath it. What the growing human population does to transform the land look. and puts in the air is as important as what it discharges

directly into the water. Imagine it this way: every last acre of forest remaining in Baltimore County, parks, nature centers and all, changed to housing. Or virtually every farm vanished, sown permanently in bedrooms for commuters.

Such scenarios represent the vast open space consumed in today's suburban sprawl by the 200,000 people

who once fit into about one-quarter of Baltimore City.

SAVE THE VALLEYS by Margaret Worrall, Executive Director.

After many years of working with and for The Valleys Planning Council, I believe more firmly than ever that the most compelling action we can take to protect the valleys is to place our own land in permanent preservation. Zoning laws change; political factions come and go;

development pressures mount from all sides. Yet country people have always been fiercely independent, and self-reliance is what can save the valleys. Real preservation will come not through government regulations, tax advantages, transfer and/or purchase of development rights, or successful estate planning as important as these incentives may be. Ultimately, saving the valleys — if they are to be

saved — will be accomplished because individual landowners feel strongly enough about the ideal and ethic of the land that they place their own holdings in protective easements. Land is the only thing in the world that amounts to

mything for 'tis the only thing in this world that lasts."

- Gone With the Wind

raise taxes, waste energy, and increase pollution. Environmentally, economically, and aesthetically, it is a loser. When we ride or hike through the lands of the bay. region, we still see a great deal of farm and forest. But if we could overlay these in our minds with the subdivision and freewheeling zoning already in place on much of that land

we would be sobered by this new vision of how it will soon And if we were able to envision another overlay—the prevailing attitudes toward private property rights versus the common good—the future of the landscape would look even more bleak. Land use and development in the bay's watershed are overwhelmingly and fundamentally shortsighted and destructive-economically, environmentally, and culturally. We continue to use open space and unique parts of our natural heritage with the same wastefulness we have

historically shown for other nonrenewable resources like coal and oil. However much we may love and enjoy the water, it is on the lands of the watershed that we live most of our lives. If we cannot preserve extensive natural green spaces, if our transportation systems are congested and our air is not fit to breathe, then all the rockfish and canvasback ducks in the

world will not make this the "Land of Pleasant Living." Land use is tied closely to environmental quality in a number of ways. More water and air pollution results from converting open space to other uses. The character of the landscape and regional cultures are destroyed by sprawl

development, as well as industries such as agriculture and

Your Plan for the Valleys is based on planner Ian McHarg's visionary concept that "the natural land form has an inherent sense of order."

In the areas where developers would most naturally have developed — the broad, open valley floors — no development would be allowed. On the forested slopes that wall the valleys only very restricted development would occur. In these elements reside what Mr. McHarg called the "genius of the landscape," and they must be kept intact.

The real genius of the Plan for the Valleys is ultimately something less definable than identification of growth and non-growth areas. It is recognition that absolute freedom of choice for each property owner to dispose of owned land results inevitably in destroying options for society as a

- 1. Area 5-1 and Area 5-2 were considered one percel when sundivided in 1951 and are not subject to Bill 189-50 thus Percel 5-2 may stand on its own having a remaining density of one unit. And he hay not be subdivided any further.
- Percel D was subdivided prior to \$131 199-92 and stands on its own and may not be further subdivided (lots sold). A plat was recorded with each deed.
-). Tract F is adjacent property and pert of a life andivision which any not be further subdivided and a density of see unit
- Parcel C was recorded 6/13/79 and consists of 1 lots. At that time RC-2 density permitted was much higher incre than 100 acres, 20 lots and 1 additional lot for each 15 acres laterate acres of 100 acres | Bill 98-75. Thus should not limit densiby of existing perceis.
- 15. Parcel End was created by Deed in August of 1988 and has a permitted density of I white.
- 6. Parcel E-2 was created by Bood in August of 1966 and has a permitted density of 2 units.
- 7. Parcel A-1 (140 Ac.t) is the remainder of Treat A and Encludes area A-1s (2 Ac.t) and has a density of 3 minute.
- 8. Total density remaining (Percel R-1, 5-2, 2-2 and Treat For 7

Tract A	Overall Gross	表的概念	<u> </u>
Parcel D	Gross Ares		
Parcel 5-1	Gross Ares		
Parcel C	Gross Riss	a Deptember 2012年 最 Discontinue	-12
Parcel K-1	Gross Ares	#3	A.2
Parcel 5-1	Gross Ares	\$5.7 a \$	4
Parcal.S-2	位置已重要 法如美国	I 5 A单。	
PATHA A-14	Gross Area	. 2 - 3 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1	
Parcel A+ B7	Gross Ares		
Parcel A EXCLUDI Parcel B-2	NÓ Gross Area	1€లి శాభు	4
Tract F is not	e como ital	<u> </u>	

ZONING REGULATS

- To confirm the density analysis. To permit a non-density transfer of Ares A-16 to Permal 1-3.
 To transfer 1 or both units permitted on E-2 to A-1. E-1 or
- Tract F.

 4. If both units are persitted to be transferred from E-2.4 request is made to make a hon-density transfer of E-2 to 174.

 5. In a broader scope, generally to utilize the 7 units of Generally remaining in any reasonable and workship Generally.

RE: "Eacon Hall" Tract A: Overall

Place of beginning being located North 76 7' 10" Mest 101-1 from the point of intersection of the center lines of Cader Grove . Acad and Cold Bottom Road thence in a clockwise direction:

- 1 South 75° 73 30° East 2,188.25'± 2 - Worth 6" West 3,106.13'1
- 3 North 27" West 33't 4 - North 39 305 West 152.637

part of Tract A Gross Arab

- 5 North 29 45" West 318.45"
- 7 North 12' 30' West 570.38'± 8 - South 75" West 445.57±
- 9 Worth 53° West 891/±
- 10 South 75" 1,179,95'±
- 11 ~ South 18 30' Bast 2,970's
- 12 South 75' 30' Best 526't
- 13 Horth 72 99' East 198'± 14 - South & Aust 1,010.63'± and
- 15 Horth 74" 30' Kast 280.5' to the place of beginning.

(Containing 247.5 acres of land more or less)

RE: "Bacon Hall" "A-1" & "A-1a"

Being all of Tract 'A' saving and excepting, B-1, B-2, C, D.

Containing 161 acres of land more or less.

Point of beginning being located in the center of Ceder Grove Road northerly 485't from its intersection with the center line of Recon Hall Road thence in a clockwise direction:

- 1 Along the center of Cedar Grove Road northerly 550'±
- -2 South 57' 15' 53" West 125.00'E] - South 15° 27' 58" East 293.02'4 and:
- 4 South 71" 07' 06" East 334.46" to the place of beginning. Containing 2 acres of land wors or lass.

RE: "Bacon Hall"

Beginning at a point located in the center of Bacon Hall Road 1,440 feet+ easterly along the center line of Bacon Hall Road from its intersection with the center of Ceder Grove Road thence in a clockwise direction:

- 3 Worth 82 32 45 West 898,14't and
- 2 = South 10' 34' 24" East 833.18'±

1 - South 75" 55' 25" East 710-33'±

4 - North 02" 50' 29" Zast 877.20' \pm to the place of beginning. Containing 15.2 acres of land more or less.

Beginning at the point of intersection of the center lines of Cadar Grove Road and Bacon Hall Road thence in a clockwise direc-

- · 1 Easterly along the center line of Bacon Hall Road 1,440'± 2 - Binding on Parcel "B-1" southerly 877.20/+
- 3 Binding on Parcel "C" westerly 1,117'± to the center line 4 - Along the center of Cedar Grove Road 925'+ to the place of
- beginning. Containing approximately 25 acres of land more or less.

temporary at her point at intermedian of the conter lines of Camer Corres Scan and Cold Scance Post Chemica in a clockwise direct

a - Service 11" 12" 04" Seen rettle to the place of beginning.

to - Accounty along the cast, line of Ceder Stove Road,

- . Secto 74' 18' Bast 18th | along the center line of Cold
- 1 Still along the canter the of cold Bottes Road Scuth 73 TO DOT BEEN 1997 - TO THE PLACE OF DESCRIPTION .

- D 동안하다는 인턴 -5567 569 등으로는 1251,
- 2 101 151 351 571 162 361,7[1]
- 6 Borto 37, 44/ 07* West 140,552
- 事 美四本77 25, 38, 10, Ast 315/00(5)

If - Morth 69' 34' 92" Sant tel . soit to the place of begin-

Beginning at a point located in the conter of Codor Grove Bood northerly 140's from its intersection with Bacon Hall Road thence

- in a clockwise directions
- 1 South 67', 34' 52" West 561,89 (2) F - Mortio 98" 23" 59" Nest 348-36/±
- 3 South 23' 12' 25' 245 140.00'E
- 4 \$0mith 80' 19' 36" Bast 528,8071
- Containing 4.4 acres of land more or less

r I) – werd in der der exet debibligike ুল এই কুলুকুত্ব কাৰ্যা । এই এইটা ভাৰত সংক্ৰান্ত কৰিছে ।

legisting at the point of intersection of the center lines of

Cedent Course Road and Cold Sotton and thence in a clockwise direct

Townstating full acres of last meaning loss.

becomes at a coint to the center of Coder Grove Road northerly lawing migning the contact of this modd from its intersection with center of haces Wall food, thence to a counter clockwise direction:

- · 호 는 중대학교로 구립 수주의 경우의 Heat 124(4) 4급 1호 # - First IF 27 58* Fest 181,02 - 5 - **Farta** 57 15' 51' 245t 125.00
- 7 3 300,2015, 4 135,015, Chd forth 60 41' 09" West
- · 등 는 (환경기업 호텔 구동) 371 (#1651, \$22, 127년) 12 · #4711 41 691 261 Hest 200.7251
- 20 Marta 37 | 925,50° West toologist. 12 - Sprin II 19/ 16/ Isst 1366 (60/1 11 - Small 31 04 men 24 251 144

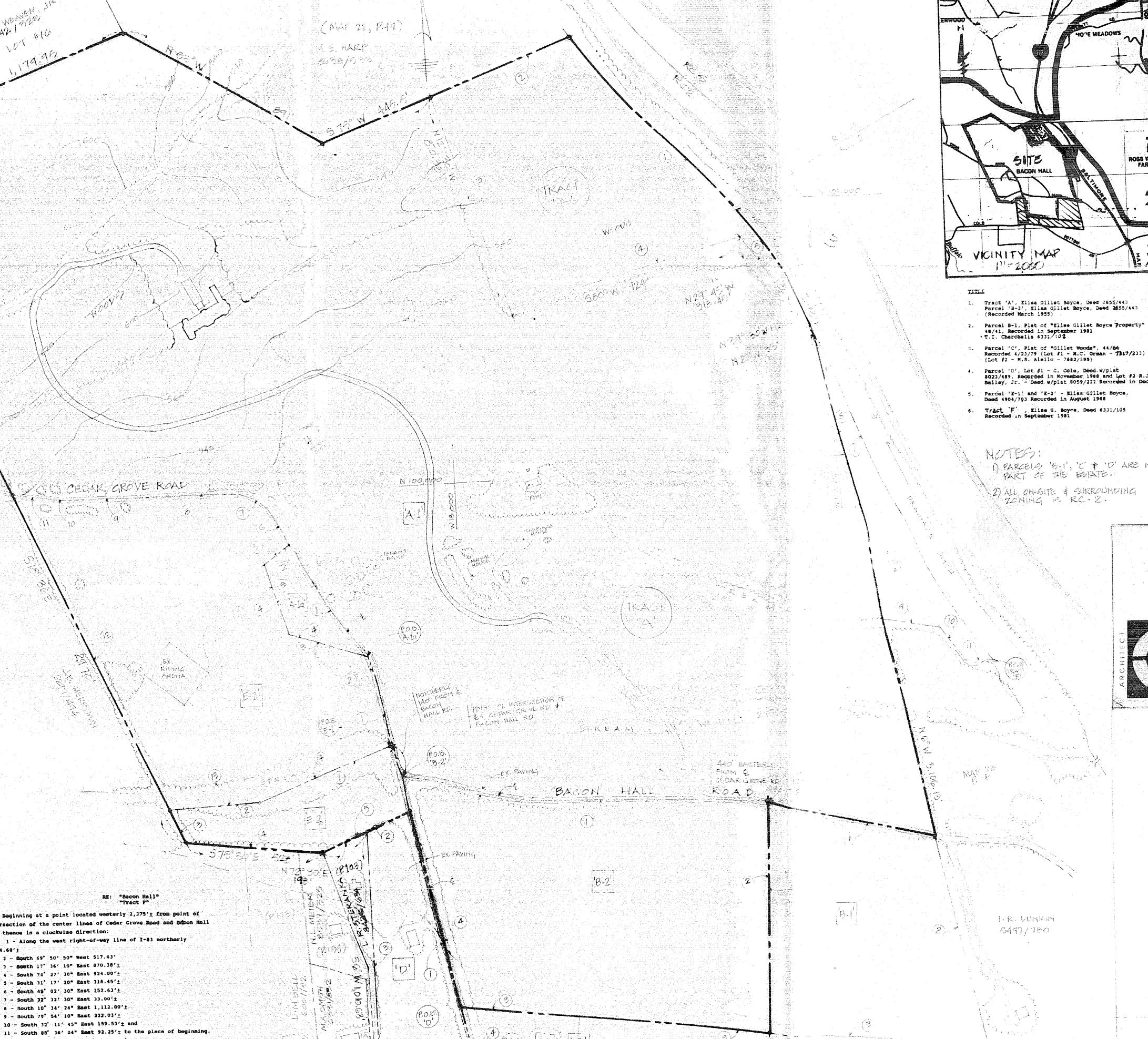
Contenting 33.7 acres of land sore or 1009

2,954.68'±

- 5 North 57" 45" 34" East 178, 1072 and 4 - North 11' 00' 00' West 265,000' to the place of beginning.

GEORGE WILLIAM STEPTEND, JR. + APROCIATED, THOO, THE STEEL STEELS LAM BURVEY INO; 658 KEHILWORTH WEIVE, BUTTE 100; TOWNER TO LEED 1204 PRESIDENT SOFT VET, SANDERS CESIGNS

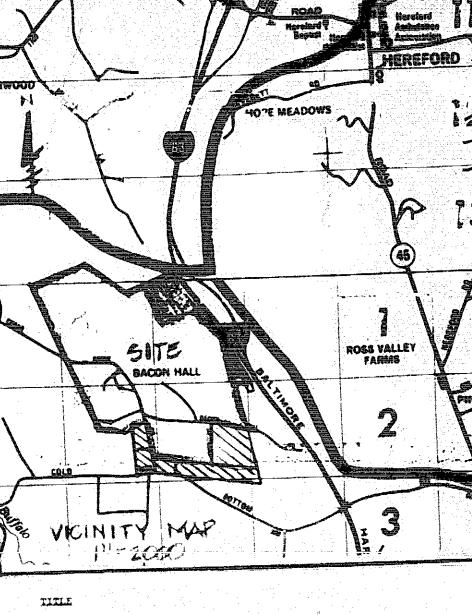
DITE PLAN PROPRIET PROM DRAWING MACE & JULY 1992 BY



FRINT OF INTERCECTION OF

GO CEPAK GROVE RE 1

FROM P.I. 4 5 TO P.O.B. TRACT A

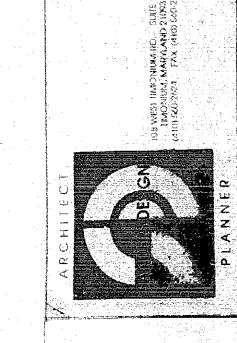


1. Tract 'A', Elisa Gillet Boyce, Deed 2655/443
Parcel 'B-2', Elisa Gillet Boyce, Deed 2655/443

- 2. Parcel B-1, Plat of "Elise Gillet Boyce Property"
- 3. Parcel 'C', Plat of "Gillet Woods", 44/64
- Parcel 'B', Lot #1 ~ C. Cole, Deed W/plat 8023/489, Recorded in November 1988 and Lot #2 R.J. Bailey, Jr. ~ Deed W/plat 8059/222 Recorded in December 1988
- Parcel 'E-1' and 'E-2' Elisa Gillet Boyce,
- Tract F , Elise G. Boyce, Deed 6331/105 Recorded in September 1981

D'ARCELO '6-1', C' + 'D' ARE NO LONGEK

2) ALL ON-SITE & SURROUNDING ZONING IS RC-2.



BITE PLAN

- vided in 1961 and are not subject to 8111-189-44 that Percel 9-1 toy stand on its can having a remining density of subsect on had 8-1 toy sot be succivided any factors.
- Frect P is adjacent property and part of a 1981 condivision which may not be further subdivided and a Country of one with
- Percel C use recorded 4/13/79 and commists of 1 lots. It that time EC-1 descrity permitted was much higher (more than 100 earth, 10 lots and 1 additional lot for each 35 corns in mounts of 100 earth) 8111 95-75. Thus should not limit descri-ty of existing parasis.

- Total density remaining (Percel A-1, B-2, T-1 and Treet # 7

Tract A	Overai:	1 Gross At ##	\$\$7.5 b 0. <u>*</u>	
Percel D	Gross :	Ar os	· # - \$ - \$ - # - #	
Parcel E-2	Cross	A. O.	\$.\$ *	
Parcel 5	Grees	Area	11.5 M.1	
Farce: E-1	Gross	ÀT AL	12374 ** 1	
Parcel B-1	Gross	Arms		
Parcel 5-7	Gross	Aret	\$ \$ ≥ 2.4	
Area A-le	Gross	Area	2 202	
Percel A # 82	GE 0-0-0	¥1.00	116 X 4	
Parcel A BACLUDING Parcel B-2	Gross	AX 04	144 AC. <u></u>	
Tract F is not	Çross	Aree	77 AS-E	State Ali

LONG BEOLUEST

- To confirm the density analysis.

 To persit a non-density transfer of Area A-1s to Partel 5-1.

 To transfer i or both units permitted on 8-2 to A-1, 9-2 or

 Truct 7.

 If both units are persitted to be transferred from 8-2 to Francest is made to make a hon-density transfer of 8-2 to Francest is made to make a hon-density transfer of 8-2 to Francest in a broader scope, generally to utilize the 7 white or density remaining in any reasonable and workable design.

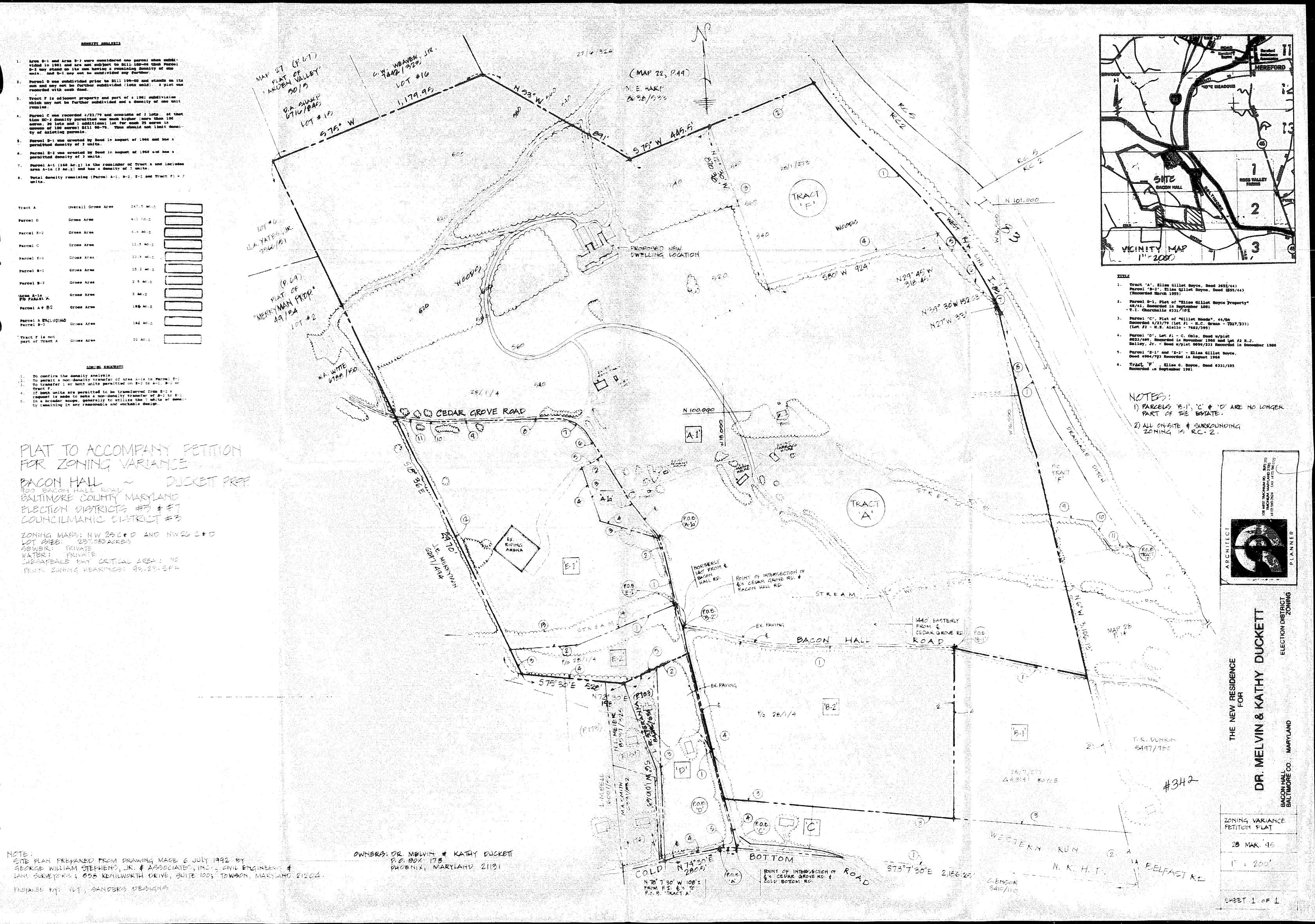
PLAT TO ACCOMPANY FETTION FOR ZONING VARIANCE

BALTIMORE COUNTY MARYLAND COUNCILMANIC CISTRICT #5

ZONING MAPS: NW 25C+D AND NW 26 C+D LOT GIEE: 237.083 ACKES SEWSK: TRIVATE WATER! PRIVATE

CHEMPENE BY CRITICAL AREA: 40 PREEK ZONING HEARINGS: 99-23-3FF

PROPAGEL MY: VLT, GANDERS DESIGNED



DESTINA VINELS

- Area 8-1 and Area 8-2 were considered one percel them continued in 1991 and are not subject to Bill 199-00 them fercel 8-2 may stand on its own having a remaining density of one unit. And 8-1 bey not be subdivided any further
- Parcel D was subdivided prior to \$[1] 199-90 and stends on its own and may not be further subdivided (lots sold). A plet wes recorded with each deed.
- Tract F is adjacent property and part of a 1981 scholivision which may not be further subdivided and a density of come wait
- Percel C was recorded 4/2)/79 and consists of 1 lets. At that time &C-2 density permitted was much higher (many tasm 192 acres, 20 lots and 1 additional lot for each 25 acres is excess of 100 serse) Bill 98-75. Thus should not limit densi-
- Percel E-1 was created by Deed in August of 1968 and has permitted density of 1 units.
- Percel E-2 was created by Deed in August of 1968 and permitted density of 2 units.
- Parcel A-1 (160 Ac.±) is the resainder of Trect A and includes area A-1a (2 Ac.±) and has a density of 3 units.
- 8. Total density remaining (Percel A-1, B-2, E-2 and Trect f) 3 units.

			ZITIS ACIE	
Tract A	Overall C	ross Area		
Parcel D	Gross Are		6.1 Ac. 5	
Parcel E-2	Gross Are) A	4.4 AC.±	
Parcel C	Gross Ar	68	11.9 %:	
Parcel E-1	Gross Ar	ea	23:9 AC.±	
Parcel B-1	Gross Ar	00	15.2 AC-1	
Parc≄l B-2	Gross Ar	20	2 5 Ac.±	
Ares A-18 PD PARLEL A	Gross Ar	rea.	2 MC-±	
Percel A+ 82	Gross Ar	r ė a	386.AC-±	
Parcel A EXCLUDING Parcel B-2	Gross Al		264 Ac.±	
Tract F is not part of Tract A	Gross A	rea	22 ACV±	

ZONING REQUESTS

- To confirm the density analysis.

 To permit a non-density transfer of Ares A-1s to Percel E-1.

 To transfer 1 or both units permitted on E-2 to A-1, B-2 or
- Tract P.

 4. If both units are parmitted to be transferred from E-1 a request is made to make a non-density transfer of E-7 to I-1.

 5. In a broader scope, generally to stillise the 7 white of more ty remaining in any reasonable and workable design.

RE: "Bacon Hall"

from the point of intersection of the center lines of Cedar Greve

- Road and Cold Bottom Road thence in a clockwise direction:
- 2 Worth 6' West 3,106.13'+ 3 - North 27 West 33'±
- 4 North 39' 30' West 152.63't 5 - North 29 45' West 318.45'±
- 6 South 80' West 924't 7 - Worth 12 30' West 870.38'+
- 8 South 75' West 445.5'+
- 9 = North 53" West 8915±
- 10 South 75 1,179.95/± 11 - South 18 30' East 2,970't
- 13 North 72 20' Bost 198'± 14 - South 6 West 1,010.63's and
- 15 North 74" 30' Best 280.5't to the place of beginning (Containing 247.5 acres of land more or less)

RE: "Bacon Hall" "A-l" 6 "A-le" (Remainder)

Being all of Tract 'A' saving and excepting, B-1, B-2, C, D,

Containing 161 acres of land more or less.

Point of beginning being located in the center of Cedar Grove Road northerly 485' tres its intersection with the center line of Bacon Hall Road thence in a clockwise direction:

- 1 Along the center of Cedar Grove Road northerly 550'+
- 2 South 57 15' 53" West 125.00'±
- 3 South 15 27' 58" East 293.02'± and 4 - South 71" 07' 06" East 324.46's to the place of beginning

its intersection with the center of Cadar Grove Road thence in clockwise direction:

- 1 South 75' 55' 25" East 713.33'±
- 2 South 10' 34' 24" East 833.18'± 3 - Worth 82" 32' 45" West 898.14'± and
- 4 North 02' 56' 29" East 877.28' to the place of beginning. Containing 15.2 acres of land more or less.

seginning at the point of intersection of the center lines of Cedar Grove Road and Bacon Hall Road thence in a clockwise direc-

- 1 Easterly along the center line of Bacon Hall Road 1,440'±
- 1 Binding on Percel "B-1" southerly 877.26'+
- 3 Binding on Parcel "C" westerly 1,117' to the center line
- 4 Along the center of Ceder Grove Road 925't to the place of

- 2 But 18 34' 24" West 261' ±
- 3 BORTE #2" 34' 46" West 2,075'1 and

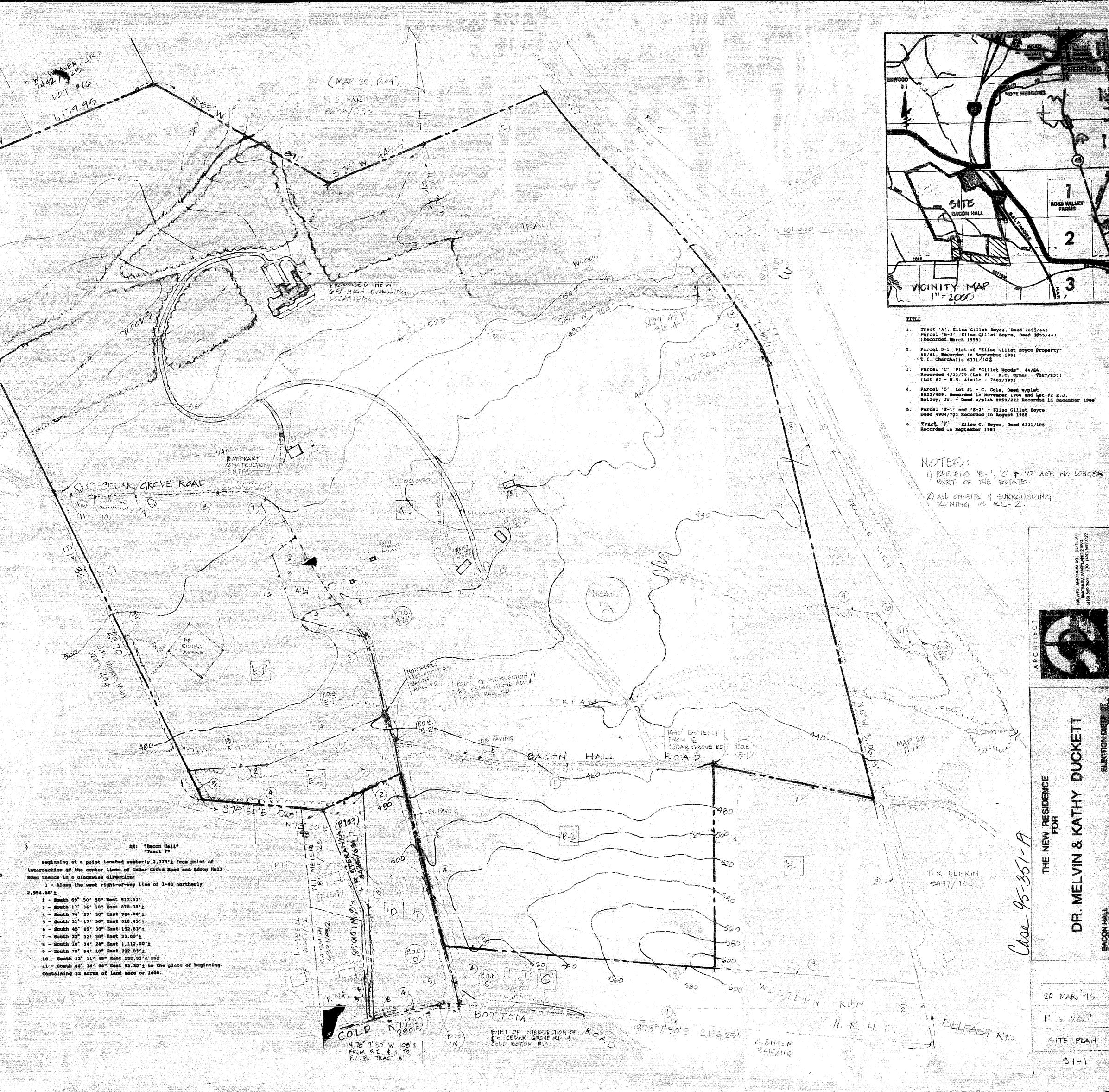
- 2 South 77 30' East 180's
- 1 South 6 Best 1,910'± 4 - North 74 16' East 180.5' along the center line of Cold
- 5 Still along the center line of Cold Bottos Road South 78 7/ 30" Part 188's to the place of beginning.
- Containing 6.1 acres of land more or less.

- 6 North 12' 44' 97" Wast 141.53'+
- 7 8 = 200.06': L = 195.13'+, Chd Horth 60 41' 09" West

Containing approximately 25 acres of land more or less.

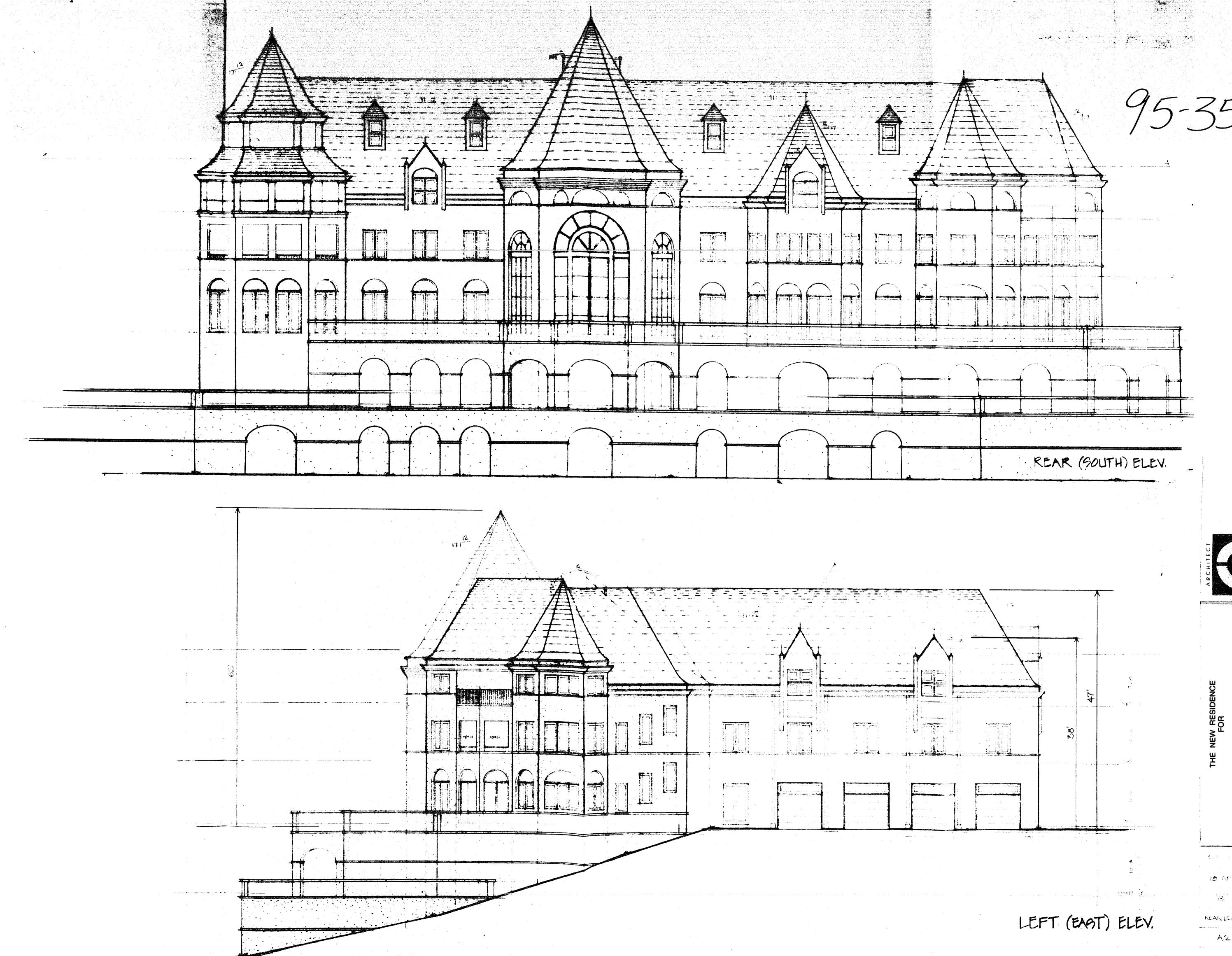
HOTE PLANT PREPARED PROM DRAWING MADE & JULY 3992 BY
GEORGE WILLIAM STEPHENS, JR. & AGGOCIATES, INC. & LIND ENGINEESS & LANG BURYETORS; 658 KENILWORTH CRIVE, BUTTE 100; TOWSON, MIGRITURE 21204

ESSEMPLE RY: YLT, SAMOERS DESIGNA



20 MAR. 95

GITE PLAN





FRONT (NORTH) ELEV.



